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**OA/ID Number:** 13602  
**Folder ID Number:** 13602-006

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**Folder Title:**  
National Grocers Association 2/4/92 [OA 6096] [1]

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of George Bush, 1992

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Administration of George Bush, 1992 / Feb. 4

207

**Statement by Press Secretary  
Fitzwater on the President's Meeting  
With President Ronald Venetiaan of  
Suriname**  
*February 3, 1992*

The President met today with President Ronald Venetiaan of the Republic of Suriname.

The President expressed his satisfaction at the success of Suriname's elections and orderly transition to democratic civilian government following the military coup in December of 1990. He stressed the United States deep commitment to fostering democratic civilian rule throughout the hemisphere and emphasized that President Venetiaan enjoys our full support for his efforts to strengthen democratic institutions, undertake economic reform, and curb narcotics trafficking.

The two Presidents discussed the Surinamese Government's plans for economic reform and adjustment. The President pointed out that effective action in this area will enhance Suriname's ability to stimulate private investment and trade, which are the key to long-term growth.

The two Presidents also discussed the threat to Suriname of increased narcotics trafficking, and the President pledged our support for Suriname's counternarcotics efforts.

President Venetiaan is making his first visit to the United States since his inauguration in September 1991. He entered office as a result of elections held in May 1991 with the participation of observers from the Organization of American States.

**Message to the Congress  
Transmitting a Report on United  
States Government Activities in the  
United Nations**  
*February 3, 1992*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am pleased to transmit herewith a report of the activities of the United States Government in the United Nations and its affiliated agencies during the calendar year 1990, the second year of my Administration. The re-

port is required by the United Nations Participation Act (Public Law 264, 79th Congress; 22 U.S.C. 287b).

**George Bush**

The White House,  
February 3, 1992.

**Message to the Congress  
Transmitting the Annual Report of  
the Federal Labor Relations  
Authority**

*February 3, 1992*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with section 701 of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-454; 5 U.S.C. 7104(e)), I have the pleasure of transmitting to you the Twelfth Annual Report of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for Fiscal Year 1990.

The report includes information on the cases heard and decisions rendered by the Federal Labor Relations Authority, the General Counsel of the Authority, and the Federal Service Impasses Panel.

**George Bush**

The White House,  
February 3, 1992.

**Remarks to the National Grocers  
Association in Orlando, Florida**  
*February 4, 1992*

Thank you for that warm welcome, and please be seated. And Tom, thank you for that wonderful introduction. Thanks also to Bill Confer, your chairman. And before we get started, I don't know where they are, but I'd like to recognize two outstanding Congressmen from this area, Bill McCollum and Cliff Stearns. And also a former Congressman who is actively involved with me, Bill Grant, of Florida. You have three of the best right here with you today.

And it's a great pleasure, and I really mean that, to be here with this enthusiastic group. I originally had planned to be at your dinner

last night. But then I found out it was called the Asparagus Club Banquet. [Laughter] Thought I'd better not take a chance. And you know why, dangerously close. [Laughter] Okay, Barbara won the broccoli war. I said what I thought, and she got out and received all these broccoli growers. And sales shot up about 500 percent. [Laughter]

You all know, I think, of my love for sports. And this being an election year, my competitive juices are flowing more than ever. And so, today I'm making an announcement that many of you have been expecting for a long time. I'm officially declaring my entry into your best bagger contest. Just one question: Paper or plastic? [Laughter]

I'll always remember—and Tom referred to it—but from a personal standpoint, I'll always remember that warm reception that you all, the NGA, gave me when I addressed that 1985 convention. It was in New Orleans. You gave me a good education about your industry then, and I remember it still. A typical NGA member is a family-run business. Many of you carry on legacies built through the vision and sacrifice of a grandmother or a grandfather. Just met one of your directors. She was a third-generation in the grocery business, perhaps an immigrant to this country, some were. You work on the thinnest of profit margins. You challenge one another with bracing competition that clearly benefits our consumers' like no others in the world. And today, as always, your success as community grocers depends not just on the bottom line but on the old-fashioned virtues of being a good neighbor.

Since I last met you all in 1985, the world has changed. We've got a lot to be grateful for. We won the cold war. We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We've created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace. But we've also run into some hard times here. Our economy has slowed down. We must get it fired up again.

The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled, that our economy has fallen, and it can't get up. Well, that's just plain bunk. It's not true. And I'm going to tell you what we can do about it. Day by day and step by step, we're going to get ourselves moving, and we'll do it as

Americans always have. We'll combine our common sense, our work ethic, and our determination with progrowth policies. With these, we'll carry the entire world into the next American century. You can bet on it.

You don't have to be some rocket scientist to understand how. You stick with the basics. And I proposed a commonsense comprehensive action plan last week in my State of the Union Address. It gets investment going, because you can't build new businesses and create new jobs without new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries, especially real estate and housing. It hacks away obstacles to growth. It cuts the Federal deficit by holding back spending. Government is far too big, and it spends too much. And I am going to keep it within its limits of this budget agreement that is in place right now.

Ask yourselves the question: How free are we, really, when the Government gobbles up 25 percent of our GNP? I'm demanding, I need your support, that Congress get serious about this. One thing, I've listed 246 programs that I want cut out this year, 246. Each one has a protector; each one has a noble title. None of them is essential to the well-being of the United States of America. And I want something else. I want that line-item veto so I can enforce real spending disciplines. Forty-three Governors have it.

We've got to get Washington back to common sense. To do that, I really mean this, I need your help. I know you can deliver. You know your neighbors; they know you. The grocery business grows when your neighborhood grows, when the Nation's economy grows. I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will create jobs by getting our economy growing again. And I've set a deadline, March 20th. I ask you to circle that Friday on your calendar. Remember this deadline. Congress needs to take a few simple steps to create good American jobs, now.

The Capitol Hill hearings on my program begin today. But I must say, too often when I send progrowth proposals to Congress, all the public hears is sloganeering about fairness. This twists a good concept into a weapon of envy and divisiveness, desire to divide America along class lines. I don't look at it that way. Here's what fairness means to me:

We'll combine our ethic, and our death policies. With the world into the you can bet on it. You rocket scientist pick with the basics. Commonsense come week in my State it gets investment build new businesses without new in the industries that recoveries, especially. It hacks away the Federal deficit. Government does too much. And in its limits of this place right now. Question: How free are government gobbles up I'm demanding, I Congress get serious we listed 246 prohibitions this year, 246. Each one has a noble essential to the well-being of America. And want that line-item real spending disbursements have it. Get back to common sense really mean this, you can deliver. They know you. Rows when your men the Nation's Congress to enact jobs by getting our and I've set a deadline to circle that Friday. Remember this deadline make a few simple can jobs, now. Jobs on my program, too often when is to Congress, all fearing about fairness, desire to divide I don't look at it less means to me:

It means if you want to work, you can get a job. It means if you have a good idea, you'll get a chance to test it, or if you build a business, you don't lose your earnings to excessive taxes or overregulation. That's what fairness means to me. Above all, the most important test of fairness for my plan is that it will work for all Americans. It will create jobs.

And now, here's what I want by March 20th. And I set that date because I do believe we have a window in which we get something done, even though this is going to be a very controversial and difficult national election year. Here's what I want: First, incentives to make productive investments. These involve a 15-percent investment tax allowance and needed changes to the alternative minimum tax. Now, these will encourage business to invest in equipment and become more productive. I just took a tour through the exhibits here, amazed by some of the technology. These proposals will stimulate that kind of investment and will help individuals invest in high technology or whatever machinery is needed.

Second, we need incentives to build and to buy real estate, a change in the passive-loss rules for active real estate developers. We need penalty-free withdrawals from IRA's for first-time homebuyers and a \$5,000 tax credit for the first purchase of a home. Housing economists predict that my plan will mean an extra 200,000 homes built and 415,000 new construction jobs to build them. Real estate and housing, with this stimulus, we'll lead our way into active recovery.

And third, incentives to succeed: Cut the capital gains tax. This tax hurts anyone who has made a sensible investment in a home, a business, or a farm. None of our key competitors taxes gains at high rates, world global competitors. Let's stop penalizing savings and investment. Let's stop punishing excellence. And yes, let's talk about fairness. Lower capital gains mean more investment, and more investment means more jobs. So, let's get that capital gains tax cut, now.

Three measures, three pieces of common sense, three things Congress should do by March 20th. I know that Congress will listen to you, you come right from the grassroots. And I'm counting on your help. In the meantime, I've initiated some reforms that will get

the economy moving without having to wait for Congress to act. I've imposed a 90-day freeze on Federal regulations that could hinder economic growth. And during that period, all Departments and Agencies will review regulations, old and new, and when possible, stop the ones that will hurt growth and speed up those that will help growth.

I see from your convention schedule that you have a workshop entitled "The Regulators Are Back." No wonder. You can't get through a day without having to worry about what some regulator is going to do to you through some thoughtless regulation. Regulations may have stated aims as wholesome as Mom and the apple pie. But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry that regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy.

I ran a council on deregulation for 8 years as Vice President. And I'm here to assure you, we've not lost the spirit of deregulation. I want you to be able to spend your time working on what you can do for your customers rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you.

And I'm also fighting hard against this epidemic of lawsuits. The costs and the delays in our legal system are a hidden tax on every single American consumer, on every business transaction in America. And that's why I'm sending to Congress today a reform bill, the Access to Justice Act of 1992. And my reform proposal will give Americans cheaper and easier alternatives to trial. And my plan will halt needless lawsuits by making changes in the way some attorney's fees are awarded. And let's stop America's love affair with the lawsuit. If we're as good at rewarding success as we are at suing each other, we'd be way ahead of the rest of the world. I might say parenthetically, health care costs would be an awful lot lower if we didn't have a lot of frivolous lawsuits going after these doctors for malpractice.

One of the great lessons of our times is this: Freedom and cooperation work, big Government doesn't. And after 70 years, the new leaders in Moscow recognize that total Government regulation produces only one thing: total failure. And now, the Russians—I had a fascinating visit with Boris Yeltsin up at Camp David on Saturday—the Rus-

sians want to try something different, like grocery stores with groceries on the shelves. [Laughter] This man's put into some tough reforms there. Got to stay with him. Got to help him make them work.

Isn't it ironic, at the exact moment the world is turning to our values of more economic freedom and competition, some in the United States Congress want to go just the opposite way. And here's an example of the trouble brewing in Congress: That's the so-called FDA enforcement bill. I'm sure those of you who sell your own private-label groceries aren't exactly thrilled by the prospect of more legal and accounting and paperwork burdens. But that's just what some in the Congress want to do. Well, let me tell you in no uncertain terms: the time for overregulation is over. And if they send me any more legislation with excessive regulation in it, I'm going to veto it and send it back. It's going right back up there.

Again, the Congress can help get the economy moving if it will just do the right thing. Last week one Member of Congress, a Democrat, said it might be smart politics for the Democrats to meet the deadline and pass my plan intact. I can't say what their motives may be, but I know one thing, my plan will help the American people. So let me take the heat. I know that my program will get the economy moving again. And again, urge the Congress to pass it intact by March 20th.

March 20 isn't a moment too soon to enact this short-term program. But we also must take a longer look, look to longer horizons. And I proposed a long-term plan in my State of the Union Address. Let me just give you a couple of the highlights here, some of the highlights.

First, let's create more American jobs by opening up and expanding markets all over the world. A new GATT agreement, we're working hard to get one, will make the world trading system come to grips with the damaging tariffs and export subsidies in agriculture. And by tearing down economic barriers with Mexico and Canada, a new North American free trade agreement can lift us to new heights of prosperity. And make no mistake about this: A sound, free trade agreement will mean more American jobs, not less, more American jobs.

Second, let free choice and free markets reform this health care system of ours. This week I'm going to ask for a new credit to help those without health insurance, employed or not, to buy such coverage. My plan will assure that both American workers and the unemployed will have access to basic health insurance even if they change jobs or develop serious health problems. We can't improve health care by threatening the health of job-intensive businesses. The last thing we want is for companies to cut costs by cutting workers. And I am wholeheartedly opposed, as I believe you are, to schemes that cost jobs by mandating benefits that an employer must pay.

And thirdly, let's strengthen the family, the cornerstone of the American dream. Let's ease the burden of child-rearing. The personal tax exemption has not kept up with inflation. I'm asking Congress, immediately, to increase the exemption for each child by \$500. It's a significant move in the right direction, and for our kids' sake, we must do no less.

Look at my economic proposals and you will find straightforward, plain solutions to our problems. Some may complain that they lack the flash of an expensive new program or that they don't have quite the right political ring for this political year. But I'm not seeking spending for spending's sake. I don't want a fancy title on a bill that will shoot interest rates right up through the roof. I want results. My plan is sound, and it will work.

If you hear people in Congress gripe that they can't get the job done by March 20th, remind them, we won the Gulf war in 44 days. Surely Congress can pass my urgent domestic program in 52 days. Remember, Congress can act with lightning speed when it wants to. So, accept no excuses. Accept no delays. And accept no substitutes.

Please don't leave this message behind when you leave this convention hall. Take it home to your families, to your customers, to your neighbors. From February 8th till February 17th, your Congressmen will be home for the President's Day recess. That's a great time for you to go to their hometown offices and tell them to meet the deadline and to pass this plan. With an effort like this,

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an effort like this,

I know we'll get their attention, and we'll get America moving again.

Thank you very, very much for this reception. And may God bless the United States of America. Thank you.

*Note: The President spoke at 11:35 a.m. at the Orange County Convention/Civic Center. In his remarks, he referred to Tom Zaucha, president of the National Grocers Association.*

**Message to the Congress  
Transmitting Proposed Legislation  
on Access to Justice  
February 4, 1992**

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am pleased to transmit today for your immediate consideration and enactment the "Access to Justice Act of 1992". The purpose of this proposal is to reduce the tremendous growth in civil litigation that has burdened the American court system and imposed high costs on our citizens, small businesses, industries, professionals, and government at all levels.

A thorough study of the current civil justice system has been conducted by a special working group, chaired by the Solicitor General, Kenneth W. Starr. The working group's recommendations, which were unanimously accepted by my Council on Competitiveness, are reflected in the bill. The legislation seeks to reduce wasteful and counterproductive litigation practices by encouraging voluntary dispute resolution, the improved use of litigation resources, and, where appropriate, modified, market-based fee arrangements. Additional reforms would permit the judicial system to operate more effectively.

The Access to Justice Act would accomplish reforms in significant areas of litigation:

- a prerequisite for Federal jurisdiction over certain types of lawsuits (the amount in controversy requirement) would be redefined to exclude vague, subjective claims;
- prevailing parties could be entitled to award of attorney's fees in certain lawsuits brought in Federal court;

- the Equal Access to Justice Act would be amended to clarify and limit litigation over the amount of attorney's fees;
- innovative "multi-door courthouses" would be established to encourage utilization of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms;
- award of reasonable attorney's fees in disputes involving the United States would be permitted in appropriate instances;
- prior notice would be required, subject to reasonable limits, as a prerequisite to bringing suit in any United States District Court;
- flexible assignment of district court judges would be authorized;
- immunity of State judicial officers would be clarified and protected;
- the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act would be amended to encourage resolution of claims administratively; and
- improvements in case management in Federal courts would be effected.

I believe this proposed legislation would greatly reduce the burden of excessive, needless litigation while protecting and enhancing every American's ability to vindicate legal rights through our legal system. I recommend prompt and favorable consideration of the enclosed bill.

**George Bush**

The White House,  
February 4, 1992.

**Memorandum on Emergency  
Funding for the Organization of  
American States Mission to Haiti  
February 4, 1992**

Presidential Determination No. 92-13

*Memorandum for the Secretary of State*

*Subject: Emergency Funding for OAS  
Mission to Haiti*

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, I hereby determine that it is important to the security interests

Get rid of  
J-day

The audience  
needs to be involved  
more - you can help  
you can be part of the  
solution - in your  
committees, in your states  
and in pushing the Congress to act.  
(Duggan/Simon)  
January 29, 1992  
Draft Three  
Grocers

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992  
[time]

[Acknowledgments, humor]

It's a pleasure to be with you. I'll always remember the warm reception the National Grocers Association gave me when I addressed your 1985 convention in New Orleans. You gave me a good education about your business then, and I remember it still.

Of course, our world has changed dramatically since 1985. We won the Cold War. We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We have created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace.

But we've also run into hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up.

Well, that's just plain bunk. We ~~will lift this country up~~ ~~get up and running in~~ ~~no time~~ -- and we'll do it the old-fashioned way: We'll use our common sense, our work ethic, our determination, and we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand how. You just stick with the basics. I proposed a common-sense action plan last week in my State of the Union address. It gets investment going, because you can't build new businesses without

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new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries -- especially real-estate. It hacks away obstacles to growth -- regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by cutting spending. And it builds on our strengths. It lets American workers and businesses show the world what they can do.

All over this country, families, businesses and even local governments have grasped a simple fact: The world has changed. The old ways won't do. If we want to remain the world's economic dynamo, we've got to get leaner and tougher. We've got to change with the times, and abandon old ways from the old days.

More to the point, we've got to get Washington moving toward the 21st Century. To do that, I need your help. I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will get our economy moving and growing again -- and I've given Congress a deadline: March 20. Circle that Friday on your calendar. I have. Call it ~~J-Day~~: The day by which Congress needs to take a few simple steps to create good American jobs -- now.

Here's what I want by ~~J-Day~~ First, incentives to invest: an amended alternative minimum tax and a 15-percent investment tax allowance.

Second, incentives to build and buy real-estate: A change in passive-loss rules for active real-estate investors; penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for first-time homebuyers, and a \$5,000 tax credit for the first purchase of that first home.

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Third, incentives to succeed: Cut the capital gains tax.

This tax hurts anyone who has made a sensible investment -- in a home, a business, a farm, even a pension plan. None of our key economic competitors taxes gains at high rates -- Japan's effective rate comes to about 1 percent; Germany doesn't tax long-term capital gains at all. The world's fastest growing economies let people collect their capital gains tax-free. Let's stop penalizing excellence. Cut the capital gains tax -- now.

Three measures, three pieces of common sense; three things Congress should do by March 20. I'm counting on your help.

In the meantime, I've initiated some reforms that will get the economy moving -- without having to wait for Congress to act. Here's one you'll like: I've imposed a 90-day freeze on federal regulations that could hinder economic growth. During that period, all departments and agencies will review regulations, old and new -- to stop the ones that will hurt growth and speed up those that will help growth.

I see from your convention schedule that you have a workshop entitled: "The Regulators Are Back." No wonder: You can't get through a day without having to worry about workplace safety regulations, food safety regulations, environmental regulations. Now, no one objects to the stated aims of these regulations: Health and safety and respect for the environment are classic, Mom-and-apple pie social values. But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy.

*9*  
*This is a good metaphor/allusion.*  
*we need more in this speech*

*Good*

*America's  
love affair with  
the lobbyist must  
stop!*

I ran a council on deregulation for eight years, as vice president. And I'm here to assure you: The spirit of deregulation is back. I want you to be able to spend your time worrying about what you can do for your customers -- rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you.

The greatest lesson of this century is: Government micromanagement doesn't work. After seventy years of tragic failure, the leaders in Moscow finally recognize that total government regulation produces only one thing: total failure. Now, Russians want to try something different -- like grocery stores with groceries on the shelves.

*OK*

I find it a bitter irony that some in Congress still favor government coercion and control over freedom and competition. It's as though we'd entered a time warp. When I hear the shrill sounds of "soak the rich" demagoguery -- when I hear politicians demand more taxes, regulations, government coercion and control, I wonder: Where have these people been for the past three years?

*OK*

Let me make you a promise: If Congress sends me any new legislation to make economic regulation more intrusive, more burdensome, more unreasonable, I'll veto it. Here's an example: The so-called FDA enforcement bill. I'm sure those of you who sell your own private-label groceries aren't exactly thrilled by the prospect of regulatory G-Men prowling around America's food factories and piling on new record-keeping burdens. But that's just what some in Congress want to do. Well, let me tell you in

*OK*

*Went over  
leg. in Philly  
Add a  
section on tort reform  
It's time, <sup>America's</sup> helping each other instead of <sup>but started</sup> ~~each~~ other.  
Lawyer jokes  
they work!*

no uncertain terms: That bill, and coercive bills like it, are big fat targets for my veto pen.

And if Congress sends unfunded mandates down to state and local governments, I'll tell it to make a choice: Pay for the mandates without raising taxes, or get ready for a veto. The federal government spends too much money as it is. ~~It has no right to force state and local governments to accept new burdens.~~

*It should no longer*

*has this been cleared by policy?*

Again, Congress can help get the economy moving if it will stop demagoging and do the right thing. Remember: March 20.

But we also need to look beyond the ~~J-Day~~ agenda. I proposed an eight-point long-term plan in my State of the Union address. I want to highlight three of those measures today.

*not technically true.*

First, let's open up and expand markets all over the world. A revolutionary new GATT agreement will make the world trading system come to grips with the damaging tariffs and subsidies in agriculture. And by tearing down economic barriers with Mexico and Canada, a new North American Free Trade Agreement will lift us to new heights of prosperity.

Second, let free choice and free markets reform our health care system. I've proposed a health insurance tax credit of up to \$3,750 for each low-income family. My plan also assures that Americans will have access to basic health insurance even if they change jobs or develop serious health problems. We can't improve health care by jeopardizing the financial health of labor-intensive businesses. That's why I'll ~~not~~ <sup>oppose</sup> ~~sign my name to any~~

*It's like Congress at the restaurant. Eats dinner and walks out on the job.*



Get rid of  
J-day

The audience  
needs to be involved  
more - you can help  
you can be part of the  
solution - in your  
communities, in your  
and in pressing the Congress  
to act.

(Duggan/Simon)  
January 29, 1992  
Draft Three  
Grocers

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:

NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992  
[time]

[Acknowledgments, humor]

It's a pleasure to be with you. I'll always remember the warm reception the National Grocers Association gave me when I addressed your 1985 convention in New Orleans. You gave me a good education about your business then, and I remember it still.

Of course, our world has changed dramatically since 1985. We won the Cold War. We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We have created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace.

But we've also run into hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up.

Well, that's just plain bunk. We ~~will~~ <sup>will lift this country up</sup> get up and running in ~~no time~~ -- and we'll do it the old-fashioned way: We'll use our common sense, our work ethic, our determination, and we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand how. You just stick with the basics. I proposed a common-sense action plan last week in my State of the Union address. It gets investment going, because you can't build new businesses without

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Need  
more  
real life  
metaphors

new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries -- especially real-estate. It hacks away obstacles to growth -- regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by cutting spending. And it builds on our strengths. It lets American workers and businesses show the world what they can do.

All over this country, families, businesses and even local governments have grasped a simple fact: The world has changed. The old ways won't do. If we want to remain the world's economic dynamo, we've got to get leaner and tougher. We've got to change with the times, and abandon old ways from the old days.

More to the point, we've got to get Washington moving toward the 21st Century. To do that, I need your help. I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will get our economy moving and growing again -- and I've given Congress a deadline: March 20. Circle that Friday on your calendar. I have. Call it ~~J-Day~~: The day by which Congress needs to take a few simple steps to create good American jobs -- now.

Here's what I want by ~~J-Days~~ First, incentives to invest: an amended alternative minimum tax and a 15-percent investment tax allowance.

Second, incentives to build and buy real-estate: A change in passive-loss rules for active real-estate investors; penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for first-time homebuyers, and a \$5,000 tax credit for the first purchase of that first home.

Third, incentives to succeed: Cut the capital gains tax.

This tax hurts anyone who has made a sensible investment -- in a home, a business, a farm, even a pension plan. None of our key economic competitors taxes gains at high rates -- Japan's effective rate comes to about 1 percent; Germany doesn't tax long-term capital gains at all. The world's fastest growing economies let people collect their capital gains tax-free. Let's stop penalizing excellence. Cut the capital gains tax -- now.

Three measures, three pieces of common sense; three things Congress should do by March 20. I'm counting on your help.

In the meantime, I've initiated some reforms that will get the economy moving -- without having to wait for Congress to act. Here's one you'll like: I've imposed a 90-day freeze on federal regulations that could hinder economic growth. During that period, all departments and agencies will review regulations, old and new -- to stop the ones that will hurt growth and speed up those that will help growth.

I see from your convention schedule that you have a workshop entitled: "The Regulators Are Back." No wonder: You can't get through a day without having to worry about workplace safety regulations, food safety regulations, environmental regulations. Now, no one objects to the stated aims of these regulations: Health and safety and respect for the environment are classic, Mom-and-apple pie social values. But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy.

1  
 this is a good  
 metaphor/allusion.  
 we need  
 more in  
 this  
 speech

Good

America's  
long affair with  
the lobbyist must  
stop!

I ran a council on deregulation for eight years, as vice president. And I'm here to assure you: The spirit of deregulation is back. I want you to be able to spend your time worrying about what you can do for your customers -- rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you.

The greatest lesson of this century is: Government micromanagement doesn't work. After seventy years of tragic failure, the leaders in Moscow finally recognize that total government regulation produces only one thing: total failure. Now, Russians want to try something different -- like grocery stores with groceries on the shelves.

OK

I find it a bitter irony that some in Congress still favor government coercion and control over freedom and competition. It's as though we'd entered a time warp. When I hear the shrill sounds of "soak the rich" demagoguery -- when I hear politicians demand more taxes, regulations, government coercion and control, I wonder: Where have these people been for the past three years?

OK

Let me make you a promise: If Congress sends me any new legislation to make economic regulation more intrusive, more burdensome, more unreasonable, I'll veto it. Here's an example: The so-called FDA enforcement bill. I'm sure those of you who sell your own private-label groceries aren't exactly thrilled by the prospect of regulatory G-Men prowling around America's food factories and piling on new record-keeping burdens. But that's just what some in Congress want to do. Well, let me tell you in

OK

Went over  
leg in Philly  
Add a  
section on tort reform  
It's time, Americans  
helping each other  
instead of suing  
each other.  
Lawyer jokes  
they work!

no uncertain terms: That bill, and coercive bills like it, are big fat targets for my veto pen.

And if Congress sends unfunded mandates down to state and local governments, I'll tell it to make a choice: Pay for the mandates without raising taxes, or get ready for a veto. The federal government spends too much money as it is. ~~It has no right to force state and local governments to accept new burdens.~~

*It should no longer*

*has this been cleared by policy?*

Again, Congress can help get the economy moving if it will stop demagoging and do the right thing. Remember: March 20.

But we also need to look beyond the ~~J-Day~~ agenda. I proposed an eight-point long-term plan in my State of the Union address. I want to highlight three of those measures today.

*not technically true.*

First, let's open up and expand markets all over the world. A revolutionary new GATT agreement will make the world trading system come to grips with the damaging tariffs and subsidies in agriculture. And by tearing down economic barriers with Mexico and Canada, a new North American Free Trade Agreement will lift us to new heights of prosperity.

Second, let free choice and free markets reform our health care system. I've proposed a health insurance tax credit of up to \$3,750 for each low-income family. My plan also assures that Americans will have access to basic health insurance even if they change jobs or develop serious health problems. We can't improve health care by jeopardizing the financial health of labor-intensive businesses. That's why I'll ~~never sign my name to any~~

*oppose*

*It's like Congress at the restaurant. Eats dinner and walks out on the job.*



# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/3/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: -----

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

SUBJECT: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<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

to (P) 2-3

82 JAN 31 P5:42 January 31, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW TS

FROM: JOSEPH P. DUGGAN JPD

SUBJECT: NATIONAL GROCERS CONVENTION

I. SUMMARY

On Tuesday, February 4, at 11:00 a.m., you will address 4,000 members of the National Grocers Association in Orlando, Florida. The members are mostly family-owned independent supermarket owners.

II. DISCUSSION

The remarks (14 minutes, on teleprompter) repeat highlights from the State of the Union.

Regarding the opening jokes: These are inside jokes which all the conventioners will get. The previous night's banquet really is called the "Asparagus Club." Also, the finals of the grocery bagging contest occur just after your speech. The question refers to how check-out clerks now ask customers what kind of bags they want: "Paper or plastic?"

(Duggan/Simon)  
January 31, 1992  
Draft Five

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992  
11:00 a.m.

Thank you, Tom [Zaucha, NGA's president]. It's a great pleasure to be here. ((I originally had planned to be at your dinner last night, but when I found out it was called the "Asparagus Club Banquet," \ I thought I better not take a chance. That comes dangerously close to being broccoli. \\\ ))

((You all know of my love for sports, and this being an election year, my competitive juices are flowing more than ever. So today, I'm making an announcement that many of you have been expecting for a long time. \ I'm officially declaring my entry \\\ into your "Best Bagger" contest. \\\ Just one question: paper or plastic? \\\ ))

I'll always remember the warm reception the NGA gave me when I addressed your 1985 convention in New Orleans. You gave me a good education about your industry then, and I remember it still. A typical NGA member is a family-run business. \ Many of you carry on legacies built through the vision and sacrifice of a grandmother or grandfather, perhaps an immigrant to this country. You work on the thinnest of profit margins. You challenge one another with bracing competition that benefits our consumers like no others in the world. And today as always, your success as community grocers depends not just on the bottom line but on the old-fashioned virtues of being a good neighbor. \\\

Since I met you last in 1985, the world has changed. \ We won the Cold War. \ We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We've created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace. \

But we've also run into some hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. \ The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up. \

Well, that's just plain bunk. \ Day by day and step by step, we'll get ourselves moving -- and we'll do it as Americans always have: We'll combine our common sense, our work ethic, and our determination with pro-growth policies. With these, we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century. \ \

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand how. You just stick with the basics. \ I proposed a common-sense action plan last week in my State of the Union address. It gets investment going, because you can't build new businesses and create jobs without new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries -- especially real-estate.

It hacks away obstacles to growth -- burdensome regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by holding back spending. You and I know that government is far too big and spends too much. \ \ How free are we, really, when the federal government gobbles up 25 percent of our GNP? \ I'm demanding that Congress get serious about this. \ I've listed

246 wasteful programs that I want cut this year -- and I want the line-item veto so I can enforce real spending discipline. \\

We've got to get Washington back to common sense. \ To do that, I need your help -- and I know you can deliver. You know your neighbors, and they know you. \\ I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will create jobs by getting our economy growing again -- and I've given Congress a deadline: March 20. Circle that Friday on your calendar. \\ I have. \\ Remember this deadline. Congress needs to take a few simple steps to create good American jobs -- now. \\

Here's what I want by the deadline: \ First, incentives to make productive investments: These involve a 15-percent investment tax allowance; needed changes to the alternative minimum tax; and a permanent research and development tax credit. These will encourage business to invest in equipment and become more productive. "

Second, incentives to build and buy real-estate: A change in passive-loss rules for active real-estate developers; penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for first-time homebuyers, and a \$5,000 tax credit for the purchase of that first home.

Third, incentives to succeed: Cut the capital gains tax. This tax hurts anyone who has made a sensible investment -- in a home, a business, or a farm. None of our key economic competitors taxes gains at high rates -- Japan's effective rate comes to about 1 percent; Germany doesn't tax long-term capital gains at all. Let's stop penalizing savings and investment.

Let's stop punishing excellence. Lower capital gains taxes mean more investment -- and more investment means more jobs. So let's cut the capital gains tax -- now. \\  
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Three measures, three pieces of common sense; three things Congress should do by March 20. \ I'm counting on your help. \\  
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In the meantime, I've initiated some reforms that will get the economy moving -- without having to wait for Congress to act. I've imposed a 90-day freeze on federal regulations that could hinder economic growth. During that period, all departments and agencies will review regulations, old and new -- to stop the ones that will hurt growth and speed up those that will help growth.

I see from your convention schedule that you have a workshop entitled: "The Regulators Are Back." \ No wonder: You can't get through a day without having to worry about what some regulator is going to do to you through some thoughtless "regulation. Regulations may have stated aims as wholesome as Mom and apple pie. \ But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy. \\  
 \

I ran a council on deregulation for eight years, as vice president. And I'm here to assure you: We have not lost the spirit of deregulation. \ I want you to be able to spend your time working on what you can do for your customers -- rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you. I'm also fighting hard against this epidemic of lawsuits. If we were as good at rewarding success as we are at suing each other, we'd be

a century ahead of the rest of the world. America's love affair with the lawsuit must stop. \\  
 \

The greatest lesson of our times is this: Government micromanagement doesn't work. \ After seventy years of tragic failure, the leaders in Moscow finally recognize that total government regulation produces only one thing: total failure. Now, Russians want to try something different -- like grocery stores with groceries on the shelves. \\  
 \

I find it a bitter irony that some in Congress still favor government coercion and control over freedom and competition. It's as though we'd entered a time warp. \ When I hear the shrill sounds of "soak the rich" demagoguery -- when I hear politicians demand more taxes, regulations, government coercion and control, I wonder: Where have these people been? \\  
 \

Isn't it ironic -- at the exact moment the world is turning to our values of more economic freedom and competition -- some in Congress want to go the opposite way. Here's an example of the trouble brewing in Congress: the so-called FDA enforcement bill. I'm sure those of you who sell your own private-label groceries aren't exactly thrilled by the prospect of more legal and accounting and paperwork burdens. But that's just what some in Congress want to do. Well, let me tell you in no uncertain terms: The time for this type of over-regulation is over. \\\

And from now on, if Congress passes a mandate for state and local governments, it shouldn't pass the buck. Congress should pay for the mandates it imposes, without heaping on new taxes. \\  
 \

Again, Congress can help get the economy moving if it will just do the right thing. Congresswoman Schroeder of Colorado said last week that maybe Congress should just pass my plan "as it is, and put it on [my] desk." And I agree exactly. If anyone thinks my program is controversial, let me take the heat. I know my program will get the economy moving again.

March 20 is not a moment too soon to enact my short-term program. But we also need to look to longer horizons. I proposed a long-term plan in my State of the Union address. Let me give you some highlights:

First, let's create more American jobs by opening up and expanding markets all over the world. A new GATT agreement will make the world trading system come to grips with the damaging tariffs and export subsidies in agriculture. And by tearing down economic barriers with Mexico and Canada, a new North American Free Trade Agreement can lift us to new heights of prosperity.

Second, let free choice and free markets reform our health care system. This week I'll ask for a new credit to help those without health insurance to buy such coverage. My plan will assure that American workers will have access to basic health insurance even if they change jobs or develop serious health problems. We can't improve health care by threatening the health of job-intensive businesses. The last thing we want is for companies to cut health costs by cutting workers. I'm wholeheartedly opposed -- as I know you are -- to schemes that costs jobs by mandating benefits an employer must pay.

Third, let's strengthen the family -- the cornerstone of the American dream. Let's ease the burden of child-rearing. The personal tax exemption has not kept up with inflation. I'm asking Congress immediately to increase the exemption for each child by \$500. It's a significant move in the right direction - - and for our kids' sake, we mustn't do less. \ \

Look at my economic proposals and you will find simple, plain solutions to our problems. Some may complain that they lack the flash of an expensive new program. But I'm not seeking spending for spending's sake. \ \ I want results. \ My plan is sound and it will work. \ \

If you hear people in Congress gripe that they can't get the job done by March 20, remind them: We won the Gulf War in 44 days. \ Surely Congress can pass my urgent domestic program in 52 days. Remember, Congress can act with lightning speed when it wants to. So: Accept no excuses. Accept no delays. And accept no substitutes. \ \

Please don't leave this message behind when you leave this convention hall. Take it home to your families. \ \ Take it home to your customers -- to your neighbors. \ \ From February 8 till February 17, your congressmen will be home for the President's Day recess. That's a great time for you to go to their hometown offices and tell them to meet the deadline and pass my plan. \ \

With effort like this, I know we'll get their attention -- \ and we'll get America moving again. \ \ \ \ Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/3/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: \_\_\_\_\_

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
 ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
 SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DELAND	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President..

*Focus on "Fairness" to combat*

RESPONSE:

*WTRM Hearing Tues. Gives US a news peg. Referencing the hearings.*

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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

to (P) 2-3

92 JAN 31 P5:42 January 31, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW TS

FROM: JOSEPH P. DUGGAN JPD

SUBJECT: NATIONAL GROCERS CONVENTION

I. SUMMARY

On Tuesday, February 4, at 11:00 a.m., you will address 4,000 members of the National Grocers Association in Orlando, Florida. The members are mostly family-owned independent supermarket owners.

II. DISCUSSION

The remarks (14 minutes, on teleprompter) repeat highlights from the State of the Union.

Regarding the opening jokes: These are inside jokes which all the conventioners will get. The previous night's banquet really is called the "Asparagus Club." Also, the finals of the grocery bagging contest occur just after your speech. The question refers to how check-out clerks now ask customers what kind of bags they want: "Paper or plastic?"

(Duggan/Simon)  
January 31, 1992  
Draft Five

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992  
11:00 a.m.

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((You all know of my love for sports, and this being an election year, my competitive juices are flowing more than ever. So today, I'm making an announcement that many of you have been expecting for a long time. \ I'm officially declaring my entry \\ into your "Best Bagger" contest. \\ \ \ Just one question: paper or plastic? \\ \ \ ))

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Since I met you last in 1985, the world has changed. \ We won the Cold War. \ We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We've created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace. \

But we've also run into some hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. \ The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up. \

Well, that's just plain bunk. \ Day by day and step by step, we'll get ourselves moving-- and we'll do it as Americans always have: We'll combine our common sense, our work ethic, and our determination with pro-growth policies. With these, we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century. \ \

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It hacks away obstacles to growth -- burdensome regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by holding back spending. You and I know that government is far too big and spends too much. \ \ How free are we, really, when the federal government gobbles up 25 percent of our GNP? \ I'm demanding that Congress get serious about this. \ I've listed

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*Library  
on  
Saves*

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With effort like this, I know we'll get their attention -- \ and we'll get America moving again. \ \ \ \ Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

Lawyer  
Action  
motion

P. 3 C.C.

When you hear  
lot. of fairness

let's or fairer

motion  
hearings  
let's want jobs that fair



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON

February 3, 1992

*Don/ Joe -  
pls  
make this  
happen  
XD*

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW  
JOSEPH P. DUGGAN

FROM: JOHN HOWARD *JH 2816*  
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: National Grocers Convention

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the President's address to the National Grocers Association scheduled for February 4. As the Administration will introduce the "Access to Justice Act of 1992" on that date, we are supplying some additional information regarding that initiative for your consideration.

Insert on page 4:

I'm also fighting hard against this epidemic of lawsuits. Our courts are overburdened with needless litigation. The costs and delays in our legal system are a hidden tax -- a lawyer's tax -- on every good and service in America. If we were as good at rewarding success as we are at suing each other, we'd be way ahead of the rest of the world.

*\** That is why I am today transmitting to Congress the "Access to Justice Act of 1992." The Act will give Americans cheaper and easier alternatives to trial. It will also discourage needless litigation by making changes in the ways some attorneys' fees are awarded. The bottom line is this: Americans need an increase in justice, not an increase in legal fees.

Please let me know if you would like any additional information.

cc: Bill Kristol

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 31, 1992

92 JAN 31 P5:42

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: JOSEPH P. DUGGAN *JPD*

SUBJECT: NATIONAL GROCERS CONVENTION

I. SUMMARY

On Tuesday, February 4, at 11:00 a.m., you will address 4,000 members of the National Grocers Association in Orlando, Florida. The members are mostly family-owned independent supermarket owners.

II. DISCUSSION

The remarks (14 minutes, on teleprompter) repeat highlights from the State of the Union.

Regarding the opening jokes: These are inside jokes which all the conventioners will get. The previous night's banquet really is called the "Asparagus Club." Also, the finals of the grocery bagging contest occur just after your speech. The question refers to how check-out clerks now ask customers what kind of bags they want: "Paper or plastic?"

(Duggan/Simon)  
January 31, 1992  
Draft Five

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992  
11:00 a.m.

Thank you, Tom [Zaucha, NGA's president]. It's a great pleasure to be here. ((I originally had planned to be at your dinner last night, but when I found out it was called the "Asparagus Club Banquet," \ I thought I better not take a chance. That comes dangerously close to being broccoli. \\\ ))

((You all know of my love for sports, and this being an election year, my competitive juices are flowing more than ever. So today, I'm making an announcement that many of you have been expecting for a long time. \ I'm officially declaring my entry \\\ into your "Best Bagger" contest. \\\ Just one question: paper or plastic? \\\ ))

I'll always remember the warm reception the NGA gave me when I addressed your 1985 convention in New Orleans. You gave me a good education about your industry then, and I remember it still. ✓ A typical NGA member is a family-run business. \ Many of you carry on legacies built through the vision and sacrifice of a grandmother or grandfather, perhaps an immigrant to this country. You work on the thinnest of profit margins. You challenge one another with bracing competition that benefits our consumers like no others in the world. And today as always, your success as community grocers depends not just on the bottom line but on the old-fashioned virtues of being a good neighbor. \\\

Since I met you last in 1985, the world has changed. \ We won the Cold War. \ We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We've created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace. \

But we've also run into some hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. \ The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up. \

Well, that's just plain bunk. \ Day by day and step by step, we'll get ourselves moving -- and we'll do it as Americans always have: We'll combine our common sense, our work ethic, and our determination with pro-growth policies. With these, we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century. \ \

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand how. You just stick with the basics. \ I proposed a common-sense action plan last week in my State of the Union address. It gets investment going, because you can't build new businesses and create jobs without new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries -- especially real-estate.

It hacks away obstacles to growth -- burdensome regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by holding back spending. You and I know that government is far too big and spends too much. \ \ How free are we, really, when the federal government gobbles up 25 percent of our GNP? \ I'm demanding that Congress get serious about this. \ I've listed

*Civil Justice  
Return  
Package*

246 wasteful programs that I want cut this year -- and I want the line-item veto so I can enforce real spending discipline. \\

We've got to get Washington back to common sense. \ To do that, I need your help -- and I know you can deliver. You know your neighbors, and they know you. \\ I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will create jobs by getting our economy growing again -- and I've <sup>set</sup> ~~given~~ Congress a deadline: March 20. Circle that Friday on your calendar. \\ I have. \\ Remember this deadline. Congress needs to take a few simple steps to create good American jobs -- now. \\

Here's what I want by the deadline: \ First, incentives to make productive investments: These involve a 15-percent investment tax allowance; needed changes to the alternative  minimum tax; and a permanent research and development tax credit. These will encourage business to invest in equipment and become more productive.

Second, incentives to build and buy real-estate: A change in passive-loss rules for active real-estate developers; penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for first-time homebuyers, and a \$5,000 tax credit for the purchase of that first home.

Third, incentives to succeed: Cut the capital gains tax. This tax hurts anyone who has made a sensible investment -- in a home, a business, or a farm. None of our key economic competitors taxes gains at high rates -- Japan's effective rate comes to about 1 percent; Germany doesn't tax long-term capital gains at all. Let's stop penalizing savings and investment.

Let's stop punishing excellence. Lower capital gains taxes mean more investment -- and more investment means more jobs. So let's cut the capital gains tax -- now. \\

Three measures, three pieces of common sense; three things Congress should do by March 20. \ I'm counting on your help. \\

In the meantime, I've initiated some reforms that will get the economy moving -- without having to wait for Congress to act. I've imposed a 90-day freeze on federal regulations that could hinder economic growth. During that period, all departments and agencies will review regulations, old and new -- to stop the ones that will hurt growth and speed up those that will help growth.

I see from your convention schedule that you have a workshop entitled: "The Regulators Are Back." \ No wonder: You can't get through a day without having to worry about what some regulator is going to do to you through some thoughtless regulation. Regulations may have stated aims as wholesome as Mom and apple pie. \ But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy. \\

I ran a council on deregulation for eight years, as vice president. And I'm here to assure you: We have not lost the spirit of deregulation. \\  
I want you to be able to spend your time working on what you can do for your customers -- rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you. I'm also fighting hard against this epidemic of lawsuits. If we were as good at rewarding success as we are at suing each other, we'd be

*Return Package Home - It will*  
a century ahead of the rest of the world. - *Yesterday Our Civil Justice was introduced into both the Senate*  
*We need this law enacted*  
America's love affair  
with the lawsuit must stop. \ \

The greatest lesson of our times is this: Government micromanagement doesn't work. \ After seventy years of tragic failure, the leaders in Moscow finally recognize that total government regulation produces only one thing: total failure. Now, Russians want to try something different -- like grocery stores with groceries on the shelves. \ \

I find it a bitter irony that some in Congress still favor government coercion and control over freedom and competition. It's as though we'd entered a time warp. \ When I hear the shrill sounds of "soak the rich" demagoguery -- when I hear politicians demand more taxes, regulations, government coercion and control, I wonder: Where have these people been? \ \

Isn't it ironic -- at the exact moment the world is turning to our values of more economic freedom and competition -- some in Congress want to go the opposite way. Here's an example of the trouble brewing in Congress: the so-called FDA enforcement bill. I'm sure those of you who sell your own private-label groceries aren't exactly thrilled by the prospect of more legal and accounting and paperwork burdens. But that's just what some in Congress want to do. Well, let me tell you in no uncertain terms: The time for this type of over-regulation is over. \ \ \

And from now on, if Congress passes a mandate for state and local governments, it shouldn't pass the buck. Congress should pay for the mandates it imposes, without heaping on new taxes. \ \

*Yesterday I met with National Governors  
They are excited in opposing Congress putting more mandates into law*

Again, Congress can help get the economy moving if it will just do the right thing. Congresswoman Schroeder of Colorado said last week that maybe Congress should just pass my plan "as it is, and put it on [my] desk." And I agree exactly. If anyone thinks my program is controversial, let me take the heat. I know my program will get the economy moving again.

March 20 is not a moment too soon to enact my short-term program. But we also need to look to longer horizons. I proposed a long-term plan in my State of the Union address. Let me give you some highlights:

First, let's create more American jobs by opening up and expanding markets all over the world. A new GATT agreement will make the world trading system come to grips with the damaging tariffs and export subsidies in agriculture. And by tearing down economic barriers with Mexico and Canada, a new North American Free Trade Agreement can lift us to new heights of prosperity.

*And make no mistake about it - A sound Free Trade Agreement means more American jobs*

Second, let free choice and free markets reform our health care system. This week I'll ask for a new credit to help those without health insurance to buy such coverage. My plan will assure that <sup>both</sup> American workers <sup>and the unemployed</sup> will have access to basic health insurance even if they change jobs or develop serious health problems. We can't improve health care by threatening the health of job-intensive businesses. The last thing we want is for companies to cut health costs by cutting workers. I'm wholeheartedly opposed -- as I know you are -- to schemes that costs jobs by mandating benefits an employer must pay.

Third, let's strengthen the family -- the cornerstone of the American dream. Let's ease the burden of child-rearing. The personal tax exemption has not kept up with inflation. I'm asking Congress immediately to increase the exemption for each child by \$500. It's a significant move in the right direction - - and for our kids' sake, we mustn't do less. \ \

Look at my economic proposals and you will find simple, plain solutions to our problems. Some may complain that they lack the flash of an expensive new program. But I'm not seeking spending for spending's sake. \ I want results. \ My plan is sound and it will work. \ \

If you hear people in Congress gripe that they can't get the job done by March 20, remind them: We won the Gulf War in 44 days. \ Surely Congress can pass my urgent domestic program in 52 days. Remember, Congress can act with lightning speed when it wants to. So: Accept no excuses. Accept no delays. And accept no substitutes. \ \

Please don't leave this message behind when you leave this convention hall. Take it home to your families. \ \ Take it home to your customers -- to your neighbors. \ \ From February 8 till February 17, your congressmen will be home for the President's Day recess. That's a great time for you to go to their hometown offices and tell them to meet the deadline and pass my plan. \ \

With effort like this, I know we'll get their attention -- \ and we'll get America moving again. \ \ \ \ Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

February 3, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW  
JOSEPH P. DUGGAN

FROM: JOHN HOWARD *JH*  
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: National Grocers Convention

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the President's address to the National Grocers Association scheduled for February 4. As the Administration will introduce the "Access to Justice Act of 1992" on that date, we are supplying some additional information regarding that initiative for your consideration.

Insert on page 4:

I'm also fighting hard against this epidemic of lawsuits. Our courts are overburdened with needless litigation. The costs and delays in our legal system are a hidden tax -- a lawyer's tax -- on every good and service in America. If we were as good at rewarding success as we are at suing each other, we'd be way ahead of the rest of the world.

That is why I am today transmitting to Congress the "Access to Justice Act of 1992." The Act will give Americans cheaper and easier alternatives to trial. It will also discourage needless litigation by making changes in the ways some attorneys' fees are awarded. The bottom line is this: Americans need an increase in justice, not an increase in legal fees.

Please let me know if you would like any additional information.

cc: Bill Kristol



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON

January 31, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR PHIL BRADY AND JOE DUGGAN

FROM: BILL KRISTOL *WK* AND DAVID M. MCINTOSH *DM*

SUBJECT: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION SPEECH

We like the draft speech and strongly support retaining the language on page 5 for the veto of the so-called "FDA enforcement bill."

P.S. John Howard will be bringing  
over 9's on Civil  
Justice Reform.



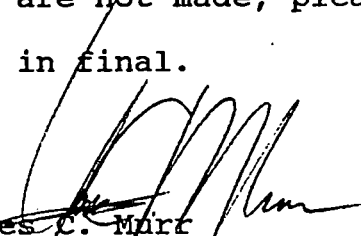
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JAN 31 1992

**NOTICE:**

Enclosed are comments from staff members of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Such comments do not necessarily represent the official position of the Director of OMB or of the Office of Management and Budget. If you wish to have the Director's personal comments, please let me know -- and contact me if you have any questions.

If our proposed substantive changes are not made, please let us know before the material is prepared in final.

  
James C. Mirr  
Associate Director for  
Legislative Reference  
and Administration

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 1/29/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 1/30/92 4:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FL. - TUESDAY, FEB. 4, 1992

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

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	—	✓	HORNER	—	—
SKINNER	—	✓	MCCLURE	✓	—
SCOWCROFT	✓	—	PETERSMEYER	—	—
DARMAN	—	—	PORTER	✓	—
BRADY	—	✓	ROGICH	✓	—
BROMLEY	—	—	SMITH	✓	□
CARD	—	✓	<u>BOSKIN</u>	✓	—
DEMAREST	✓	—	<u>DELAND</u>	✓	—
FITZWATER	—	✓	<u>KAUFMAN</u>	—	✓
GRAY	✓	—	<u>FINDLAY</u>	—	✓
HOLIDAY	✓	—	<u>SNOW</u>	—	✓

**REMARKS:**

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

*See comments*

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

02 JAN 29 P2:39

(Duggan/Simon)  
January 29, 1992  
Draft Three  
Grocers

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992  
[time]

[Acknowledgments, humor]

It's a pleasure to be with you. I'll always remember the warm reception the National Grocers Association gave me when I addressed your 1985 convention in New Orleans. You gave me a good education about your business then, and I remember it still.

Of course, our world has changed dramatically since 1985. We won the Cold War. We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We have created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace.

But we've also run into hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up.

Well, that's just plain bunk. ~~We'll get up and running in no time -- and~~ we'll do it the old-fashioned way: We'll use our common sense, our work ethic, our determination, and we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand how. You just stick with the basics. I proposed a common-sense action plan last week in my State of the Union address. It gets investment going, because you can't build new businesses without

How?  
the current standard behind us

Grady x 4/8/94

America remains the largest producer of goods + services in the world, with the largest exporter, with the highest standard of living -

Grady x 4/8/94 and create jobs

The point is that we can do better -- and that will get

Goody  
x4844

-- ad helps stop the slide in the value of people's homes.

new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries -- especially real-estate. It hacks away obstacles to growth -- regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by ~~cutting~~ <sup>holding back</sup> spending. And it builds on our strengths. It lets American workers and businesses show the world what they can do.

✓ Goody  
x4844

All over this country, families, businesses and even local governments have grasped a simple fact: The world has changed. The old ways won't do. If we want to remain the world's economic dynamo, we've got to get leaner and tougher. We've got to change with the times, and abandon old ways from the old days.

We've got to invest in the future.

More to the point, we've got to get Washington moving toward the 21st Century. To do that, I need your help. I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will get our economy moving and growing again -- and I've given Congress a deadline: March 20. Circle that Friday on your calendar. I have. Call it J-Day: The day by which Congress needs to take a few simple steps to create good American jobs -- now.

Here's what I want by J-Day. First, incentives to invest: an amended alternative minimum tax and a 15-percent investment tax allowance. ~~That~~ <sup>ese</sup> will encourage business to invest in equipment and become more productive.

more productive  
(Goody  
x4844)

Second, incentives to build and buy real-estate: A change in passive-loss rules for active real-estate investors; penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for first-time homebuyers, and a \$5,000 tax credit for the ~~first~~ <sup>st</sup> purchase of that first home.

These will make it easier for young people to enjoy the American dream. (Goody x4844)

✓ Hal  
x3120

Nat'l Business Assn's Staffing Reg.

Third, incentives to succeed: cut the capital gains tax.

This tax hurts anyone who has made a sensible investment -- in a home, a business, a farm, even a pension plan. None of our key economic competitors taxes gains at high rates -- Japan's effective rate comes to about 1 percent; Germany doesn't tax long-term capital gains at all. The world's fastest growing economies let people collect their capital gains tax-free. Let's stop penalizing excellence. Cut the capital gains tax -- now.

Three measures, three pieces of common sense; three things Congress should do by March 20. I'm counting on your help.

In the meantime, I've initiated some reforms that will get the economy moving -- without having to wait for Congress to act. Here's one you'll like: I've imposed a 90-day freeze on federal regulations that could hinder economic growth. During that period, all departments and agencies will review regulations, old and new -- to stop the ones that will hurt growth and speed up those that will help growth.

I see from your convention schedule that you have a workshop entitled: "The Regulators Are Back." No wonder: You can't get

through a day without having to worry about <sup>what some regulator is going to do to</sup> ~~workplace safety~~ regulations, ~~food safety regulations~~, ~~environmental regulations~~.

Now, no one objects to the stated aims of <sup>workplace safety, food safety, environmental and similar</sup> ~~these~~ regulations: <sup>of some</sup> ~~thoughtless~~ regulation.

Health and safety and respect for the environment are classic, Mom-and-apple pie social values. But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy.

This is phrased better to pick in the (no is done as first) than as the regulatory issue - must people do what safe workplaces.

Scully 45178

Scully 45178

I ran a council on deregulation for eight years, as vice president. And I'm here to assure you: The spirit of deregulation is back. I want you to be able to spend your time worrying about what you can do for your customers -- rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you.

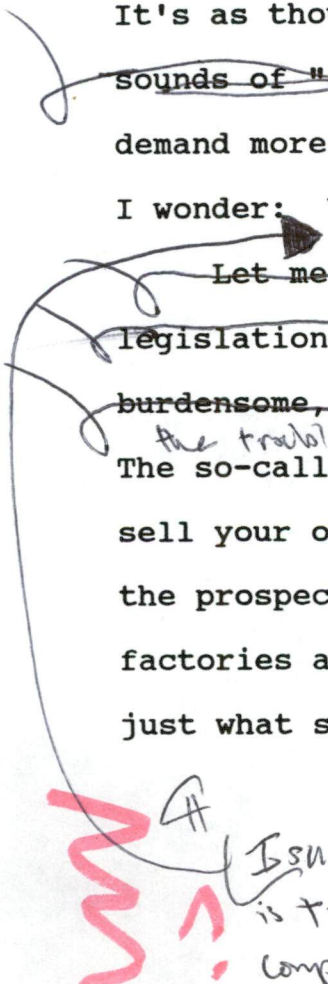
The greatest lesson of this century is: Government micromanagement doesn't work. After seventy years of tragic failure, the leaders in Moscow finally recognize that total government regulation produces only one thing: total failure. Now, Russians want to try something different -- like grocery stores with groceries on the shelves.

I find it a bitter irony that some in Congress still favor government coercion and control over freedom and competition. It's as though we'd entered a time warp. ~~When I hear the shrill sounds of "soak the rich" demagoguery --~~ when I hear politicians demand more taxes, regulations, government coercion and control, I wonder: Where have these people been for the past three years?

~~Let me make you a promise: If Congress sends me any new legislation to make economic regulation more intrusive, more burdensome, more unreasonable, I'll veto it. Here's an example of~~  
the trouble brewing in Congress:  
The so-called FDA enforcement bill. I'm sure those of you who sell your own private-label groceries aren't exactly thrilled by the prospect of regulatory G-Men prowling around America's food factories and piling on new record-keeping burdens. But that's just what some in Congress want to do. ~~Well, let me tell you in~~

Coody x 4894  
Sully x 5174

# Isn't it ironic -- at the exact moment the whole world is turning to our values of more economic freedom and more competition -- some in Congress want to turn away from them?  
# My friends, this isn't "the end of history" -- it's the beginning of a new era of freedom.



The time for this type of over-regulation  
is long since passed.

Gandy  
x4844

no uncertain terms: That bill, and coercive bills like it, are  
big fat targets for my veto pen.

And if Congress sends unfunded mandates down to state and  
local governments, I'll tell it to make a choice: Pay for the  
mandates without raising taxes, or get ready for a veto. The  
federal government spends too much money as it is. It has no  
right to force state and local governments to accept new burdens.

Gandy  
x4844

Again, Congress can help get the economy moving if it will  
stop demagoging and do the right thing. Remember: March 20.

But we also need to look beyond the J-Day agenda. I  
proposed an eight-point long-term plan in my State of the Union  
address. I want to highlight three of those measures today.

First, let's open up and expand markets all over the world.  
A revolutionary new GATT agreement will make the world trading  
system come to grips with the damaging tariffs and subsidies in  
agriculture. And by tearing down economic barriers with Mexico  
and Canada, a new North American Free Trade Agreement will lift  
us to new heights of prosperity.

It will propose in my health plan

Second, let free choice and free markets reform our health  
care system. ~~I've proposed a~~ <sup>new</sup> health insurance tax credit of up  
to \$3,750 for each low-income family. My plan also assures that  
Americans will have access to basic health insurance even if they  
change jobs or develop serious health problems. We can't improve  
health care by jeopardizing the financial health of labor-  
intensive businesses. That's why I'll never sign my name to any

Gandy  
x4844

Goodly X 10/21/91

Frankly, when you analyze the play or pay and national health insurance schemes being cooked up by some in Congress,

they can be summed up in two words: tax increase. Make that three words: massive tax increase. (Goodly X 10/21/91)

scheme that mandates benefits an employer should pay. ✓

Third, let's strengthen the family -- the cornerstone of the American dream. Let's ease the burden of child-rearing. The personal tax exemption has not kept up with inflation. In 1948

(?), the personal exemption was set at \$<sup>600</sup>. In 1992 dollars, that exemption would be worth \$<sup>3,425</sup>. But over the years, we've only increased the exemption to \$<sup>2,150</sup>.<sup>-91</sup> I'm asking Congress

using the change in the CPI since then, the exemption would be \$3,425 in terms of 1992 dollars.

immediately to increase the exemption for each child by \$500. We can afford this move in the right direction.

Al-Somarie X 5/8/93  
The personal exemption was \$2,150 last year.

Look at my economic proposals and you will find simple, plain solutions to our problems. Some may complain that they lack the flash of an expensive new program. But I'm not seeking spending for spending's sake. I want results. My plan is sound and it will work.

If you hear people in Congress gripe that they can't get the job done by March 20, remind them: We won the Gulf War in 45 days. Surely Congress can pass my urgent domestic initiatives in 53 days. Remember, Congress can act with lightning speed when it wants to. It took the House of Representatives just one day to shut down its bank and thereby stop its little problem with check-bouncing.

So: Accept no excuses. Accept no delays. And accept no substitutes.

With your help -- we'll get America moving again soon. Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

# # #

"[There's] a temptation to just report it [the President's plan] as it is, put it on his desk, look at our clocks, and say, 'OK, the recovery clock is running. Let's let you have it your way.'"

Congresswoman Pat Schroeder  
Fox Morning News  
January 30, 1992

I know that this industry, in particular, is concerned about the impact of regulations on the cost of goods and services, for you are confronted daily with a myriad a regulations dealing with issues from work place safety to environmental protection. And even though the stated goals of all these regulations are laudable, you know better than anyone that when regulators go too far, the goals themselves can be defeated.

not just on the bottom line but -- crucially -- on the old-fashioned virtues of being a good neighbor.

Since I met you last in 1985, the world has changed. We won the Cold War. We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We have created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace.

But we've also run into some hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up.

Well, that's just plain bunk. Day by day and step by step, we'll get ourselves moving -- and we'll do it as Americans always have: We'll combine our common sense, our work ethic, and our determination with pro-growth policies. With these, we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand how. You just stick with the basics. I proposed a common-sense action plan last week in my State of the Union address. It gets investment going, because you can't build new businesses without new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries -- especially real-estate.

It hacks away obstacles to growth -- burdensome regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by cutting spending. You and I know that government is far too big and spends too much. How free are we, really, when the federal government gobbles up 25 percent of our GNP? I'm demanding that

Congress get serious about this. I've listed 246 wasteful programs that I want cut this year -- and I want the line-item veto so I can enforce real spending discipline.

We've got to get Washington back to common sense. To do that, I need your help -- and I know you can deliver. You know your neighbors, and they know you.

I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will create jobs by getting our economy growing again -- and I've given Congress a deadline: March 20. Circle that Friday on your calendar. I have. Remember this deadline by which Congress needs to take a few simple steps to create good American jobs -- now.

Here's what I want by the deadline. First, incentives to make productive investments: These involve a 15-percent investment tax allowance; needed changes to the alternative minimum tax; and a permanent research and development tax credit.

Second, incentives to build and buy real-estate: A change in passive-loss rules for active real-estate developers; penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for first-time homebuyers, and a \$5,000 tax credit for the purchase of that first home.

Third, incentives to succeed: Cut the capital gains tax. This tax hurts anyone who has made a sensible investment -- in a home, a business, a farm, even a pension plan. None of our key economic competitors taxes gains at high rates -- Japan's effective rate comes to about 1 percent; Germany doesn't tax long-term capital gains at all. Let's stop penalizing savings and investment. Let's stop punishing excellence. Lower capital

gains taxes mean more investment -- and more investment means more jobs. So let's cut the capital gains tax -- now.

Three measures, three pieces of common sense; three things Congress should do by March 20. I'm counting on your help.

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I see from your convention schedule that you have a workshop entitled: "The Regulators Are Back." No wonder: You can't get through a day without having to worry about what some regulator is going to do to you through some thoughtless regulation. Regulations may have stated aims as wholesome as Mom and apple pie. But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy.

I ran a council on deregulation for eight years, as vice president. And I'm here to assure you: We have not lost the spirit of deregulation. I want you to be able to spend your time working on what you can do for your customers -- rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you.

The greatest lesson of this century is: Government micromanagement doesn't work. After seventy years of tragic failure, the leaders in Moscow finally recognize that total government regulation produces only one thing: total failure.

Now, Russians want to try something different -- like grocery stores with groceries on the shelves.

I find it a bitter irony that some in Congress still favor government coercion and control over freedom and competition. It's as though we'd entered a time warp. When I hear the shrill sounds of "soak the rich" demagoguery -- when I hear politicians demand more taxes, regulations, government coercion and control, I wonder: Where have these people been?

Let me make you a promise: If Congress sends me any new legislation to make economic regulation more intrusive, more burdensome, more unreasonable, I'll veto it. Here's an example: The so-called FDA enforcement bill. I'm sure those of you who sell your own private-label groceries aren't exactly thrilled by the prospect of more legal and accounting and paperwork burdens. But that's just what some in Congress want to do. Well, let me tell you in no uncertain terms: That bill, and coercive bills like it, are big fat targets for my veto pen.

And if Congress sends unfunded mandates down to state and local governments, I'll tell them to make a choice: Pay for the mandates without raising taxes, or get ready for a veto. The federal government spends too much money as it is. It has no right to force state and local governments to accept new burdens.

Again, Congress can help get the economy moving if it will stop demagoguing and do the right thing. Congresswoman Schroeder of Colorado said last week that maybe the Congress should go

ahead and pass my package by the March 20 deadline. ~~That way the President can take the heat.~~

*And I agree exactly. If anyone thinks my program is controversial, I'll take the heat.*  
~~Let me tell her: I'd welcome that. I'd like nothing better~~

-- because I know my program will get the economy moving again.

March 20 is not a moment too soon to enact my short-term program. But we also need to look beyond the near term. I proposed a long-term plan in my State of the Union address. Let me give you some highlights:

First, let's create more American jobs by opening up and expanding markets all over the world. A new GATT agreement will make the world trading system come to grips with the damaging tariffs and export subsidies in agriculture. And by tearing down economic barriers with Mexico and Canada, a new North American Free Trade Agreement can lift us to new heights of prosperity.

Second, let free choice and free markets reform our health care system. This week I'll ask for a new credit to help those without health insurance to buy such coverage. My plan also will assure that American workers will have access to basic health insurance even if they change jobs or develop serious health problems. We can't improve health care by threatening the health of job-intensive businesses. The last thing we want is for companies to cut health costs by cutting workers. I'm wholeheartedly opposed -- as I know you are -- to any scheme that costs jobs by mandating benefits an employer should pay.

Third, let's strengthen the family -- the cornerstone of the American dream. Let's ease the burden of child-rearing. The

personal tax exemption has not kept up with inflation. I'm asking Congress immediately to increase the exemption for each child by \$500. We can afford this move in the right direction.

Look at my economic proposals and you will find simple, plain solutions to our problems. Some may complain that they lack the flash of an expensive new program. But I'm not seeking spending for spending's sake. I want results. My plan is sound and it will work.

If you hear people in Congress gripe that they can't get the job done by March 20, remind them: We won the Gulf War in 44 days. Surely Congress can pass my urgent domestic program in 52 days. Remember, Congress can act with lightning speed when it wants to.

So: Accept no excuses. Accept no delays. And accept no substitutes.

Please don't leave this message behind when you leave this convention hall. Take it home to your families. Take it home to your customers -- to your neighbors. From February xx to February xx, your senators and congressmen will be home for the President's Day recess. That's a great time for you to drop by their hometown offices for a neighborly chat.

With effort like this, I know we'll get their attention -- and well get America moving again soon. Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

# # #

Ron Kaufman 22 1/30/92 P4: 19

Comments on Natl. Grocers Assn. speech:

What better place to talk about American economic recovery than here? Grocers in every neighborhood are visited by locals who discuss their concerns, their worries with them. As grocers, you see, you listen, you understand -- every once in a while you express your own opinion, and explain the world as it really is. You know that small businesses will be the backbone of our economic recovery.

p. 2, middle - "...To do that, I need your help -- and you can deliver." *yes*

p. 2 - J-Day is a bad idea. *yes*

p. 3 - bottom, Continue last sentence: "...and she won't be able to afford what pie is left." *no*

p. 6 - "This government is far too big and spends too much." -- incorporate this somewhere; it will work well here. *yes*

Alos, pushing Congress to act: need strong language expressing the need for Congress to get the President's plan passed: Get to work...

*also*  
*mention*  
*letter*  
*vets.*

JMH  
- HK  
- MM

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 1/29/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 1/30/92 4:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FL. - TUESDAY, FEB. 4, 1992

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

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	—	✓	HORNER	—	—
SKINNER	—	✓	MCCLURE	✓	—
SCOWCROFT	✓	—	PETERSMEYER	—	—
DARMAN	✓	—	PORTER	<del>—</del>	—
BRADY	—	✓	ROGICH	✓	—
BROMLEY	—	—	SMITH	✓	□
CARD	—	✓	<u>BOSKIN</u>	✓	—
DEMAREST	✓	—	<u>DELAND</u>	✓	—
FITZWATER	—	✓	<u>KAUFMAN</u>	—	✓
GRAY	✓	—	<u>FINDLAY</u>	—	✓
HOLIDAY	✓	—	<u>SNOW</u>	—	✓

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

32 JAN 29 P2:39

(Duggan/Simon)  
January 29, 1992  
Draft Three  
Grocers

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992  
[time]

[Acknowledgments, humor]

It's a pleasure to be with you. I'll always remember the warm reception the National Grocers Association gave me when I addressed your 1985 convention in New Orleans. You gave me a good education about your business then, and I remember it still.

Of course, our world has changed dramatically since 1985. We won the Cold War. We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We have created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace.

But we've also run into hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up.

Well, that's just plain bunk. We'll get up and running in no time -- and we'll do it the old-fashioned way: We'll use our common sense, our work ethic, our determination, and we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand how. You just stick with the basics. I proposed a common-sense action plan last week in my State of the Union address. It gets investment going, because you can't build new businesses without

new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries -- especially real-estate. It hacks away obstacles to growth -- regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by cutting spending. And it builds on our strengths. It lets American workers and businesses show the world what they can do.

All over this country, families, businesses and even local governments have grasped a simple fact: The world has changed. The old ways won't do. If we want to remain the world's economic dynamo, we've got to get leaner and tougher. We've got to change with the times, and abandon old ways from the old days.

More to the point, we've got to get Washington moving toward the 21st Century. To do that, I need your help. I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will get our economy moving and growing again -- and I've given Congress a deadline: March 20. Circle that Friday on your calendar. I have. Call it J-Day: The day by which Congress needs to take a few simple steps to create good American jobs -- now.

Here's what I want by J-Day. First, incentives to invest: an amended alternative minimum tax and a 15-percent investment tax allowance.

Second, incentives to build and buy real-estate: A change in passive-loss rules for active real-estate investors; penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for first-time homebuyers, and a \$5,000 tax credit for the first purchase of that first home.

Third, incentives to succeed: Cut the capital gains tax.

This tax hurts anyone who has made a sensible investment -- in a home, a business, a farm, even a pension plan. None of our key economic competitors taxes gains at high rates -- Japan's effective rate comes to about 1 percent; Germany doesn't tax long-term capital gains at all. The world's fastest growing economies let people collect their capital gains tax-free. Let's stop penalizing excellence. Cut the capital gains tax -- now.

Three measures, three pieces of common sense; three things Congress should do by March 20. I'm counting on your help.

In the meantime, I've initiated some reforms that will get the economy moving -- without having to wait for Congress to act. Here's one you'll like: I've imposed a 90-day freeze on federal regulations that could hinder economic growth. During that period, all departments and agencies will review regulations, old and new -- to stop the ones that will hurt growth and speed up those that will help growth.

*insert* I see from your convention schedule that you have a workshop entitled: "The Regulators Are Back." No wonder: You can't get through a day without having to worry about workplace safety regulations, food safety regulations, environmental regulations. Now, no one objects to the stated aims of these regulations: Health and safety and respect for the environment are classic, Mom-and-apple pie social values. But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy.

I ran a council on deregulation for eight years, as vice president. And I'm here to assure you: The spirit of deregulation is back. I want you to be able to spend your time worrying about what you can do for your customers -- rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you.

The greatest lesson of this century is: Government micromanagement doesn't work. After seventy years of tragic failure, the leaders in Moscow finally recognize that total government regulation produces only one thing: total failure. Now, Russians want to try something different -- like grocery stores with groceries on the shelves.

I find it a bitter irony that some in Congress still favor government coercion and control over freedom and competition. It's as though we'd entered a time warp. When I hear the shrill sounds of "soak the rich" demagoguery -- when I hear politicians demand more taxes, regulations, government coercion and control, I wonder: Where have these people been for the past three years?

Let me make you a promise: If Congress sends me any new legislation to make economic regulation more intrusive, more burdensome, more unreasonable, I'll veto it. Here's an example: The so-called FDA enforcement bill. I'm sure those of you who sell your own private-label groceries aren't exactly thrilled by the prospect of regulatory G-Men prowling around America's food factories and piling on new record-keeping burdens. But that's just what some in Congress want to do. Well, let me tell you in

no uncertain terms: That bill, and coercive bills like it, are big fat targets for my veto pen.

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Again, Congress can help get the economy moving if it will stop demagoging and do the right thing. Remember: March 20.

But we also need to look beyond the J-Day agenda. I proposed an eight-point long-term plan in my State of the Union address. I want to highlight three of those measures today.

First, let's open up and expand markets all over the world. A revolutionary new GATT agreement will make the world trading system come to grips with the damaging tariffs and subsidies in agriculture. And by tearing down economic barriers with Mexico and Canada, a new North American Free Trade Agreement will lift us to new heights of prosperity.

Second, let free choice and free markets reform our health care system. I've proposed a health insurance tax credit of up to \$3,750 for each low-income family. My plan also assures that Americans will have access to basic health insurance even if they change jobs or develop serious health problems. We can't improve health care by jeopardizing the financial health of labor-intensive businesses. That's why I'll never sign my name to any

scheme that mandates benefits an employer should pay.

Third, let's strengthen the family -- the cornerstone of the American dream. Let's ease the burden of child-rearing. The personal tax exemption has not kept up with inflation. In 1948 (?), the personal exemption was set at \$---. In 1992 dollars, that exemption would be worth \$---. But over the years, we've only increased the exemption to \$----. I'm asking Congress immediately to increase the exemption for each child by \$500. We can afford this move in the right direction.

Look at my economic proposals and you will find simple, plain solutions to our problems. Some may complain that they lack the flash of an expensive new program. But I'm not seeking spending for spending's sake. I want results. My plan is sound and it will work.

If you hear people in Congress gripe that they can't get the job done by March 20, remind them: We won the Gulf War in 45 days. Surely Congress can pass my urgent domestic initiatives in 53 days. Remember, Congress can act with lightning speed when it wants to. It took the House of Representatives just one day to shut down its bank and thereby stop its little problem with check-bouncing.

So: Accept no excuses. Accept no delays. And accept no substitutes.

With your help -- we'll get America moving again soon.  
Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

# # #

02 JAN 29 P2:39

(Duggan/Simon)  
January 29, 1992  
Draft Three  
Grocers

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992  
[time]

[Acknowledgments, humor]

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Of course, our world has changed dramatically since 1985. We won the Cold War. We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We have created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace.

*Mention  
line  
item  
vets  
Some when*

But we've also run into hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up.

Well, that's just plain bunk. We'll get up ~~and running in~~ <sup>American</sup> ~~no time~~ -- and we'll do it the ~~old-fashioned~~ way: We'll use our common sense, our work ethic, our determination, <sup>new policies</sup> and we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century.

*inches by  
each*

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new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries -- especially real-estate. It hacks away obstacles to growth -- regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by cutting spending. And it builds on our strengths. It lets American workers and businesses show the world what they can do.

All over this country, families, businesses and even local governments have grasped a simple fact: The world has changed. The old ways won't do. If we want to remain the world's economic dynamo, we've got to get leaner and tougher. We've got to change with the times, and abandon old ways from the old days.

More to the point, we've got to get Washington moving toward the 21st Century. To do that, I need your help. I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will get our economy moving and growing again -- and I've given Congress a deadline: March 20. Circle that Friday on your calendar. I have. Call it ~~[J-Day]~~: The day by which Congress needs to take a few simple steps to create good American jobs -- now.

Here's what I want by ~~[J-Day]~~. First, incentives to invest: an amended alternative minimum tax and a 15-percent investment tax allowance.

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*Regulation may have spread since as whole some is Mom and apple pie*  
 Now, ~~no one objects to the stated aims of these regulations:~~

~~Health and safety and respect for the environment are classic,~~

~~Mom-and-apple pie social values.~~ But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy.

I ran a council on deregulation for eight years, as vice president. And I'm here to assure you: ~~The spirit of deregulation is back.~~ I want you to be able to spend your time worrying about what you can do for your customers -- rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you.

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But we also need to look beyond the [J-Day] agenda. I proposed an eight-point long-term plan in my State of the Union address. I want to highlight three of those measures today.

First, let's open up and expand markets all over the world. A revolutionary new GATT agreement will make the world trading system come to grips with the damaging tariffs and subsidies in agriculture. And by tearing down economic barriers with Mexico and Canada, a new North American Free Trade Agreement <sup>can</sup> ~~will~~ lift us to new heights of prosperity.

if — if — if —  
cong unshackles our economy — or  
do some  
put  
less  
shackles  
on  
econ.

Second, let free choice and free markets reform our health care system. I've proposed a health insurance tax credit of up to \$3,750 for each low-income family. My plan also assures that Americans will have access to basic health insurance even if they change jobs or develop serious health problems. We can't improve health care by jeopardizing the financial health of labor-intensive businesses. That's why I'll never sign my name to any

scheme that mandates benefits an employer should pay.

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So: Accept no excuses. Accept no delays. And accept no substitutes.

With your help -- we'll get America moving again soon.  
Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

# # #

4-holders on HS Network on Wed.  
— Get prog. list —

# National Grocers

Simon

Thank you Tom [Zaucha]. It's a great pleasure to be here today. ((I had originally planned to be at your dinner last night, but when I found out it was called the "Asparagus Club Banquet," \ I thought I better not take a chance. That comes dangerously close to being broccoli. \\))

((You all know of my love for sports, and this being an election year, my competitive juices are flowing more than ever. So today, I'm making an announcement that many of you have been expecting for a long time. \ I'm officially declaring my entry \\ into your "Best Bagger" contest. \\ \\ \\ Just one question: paper or plastic? \\))

# MASTER

Steve Hart - Page 6 - Too early to be this caustic  
We'll need bipartisan support to pass <sup>you</sup>  
the Econ. Growth Package - And

Dorrance Smith

- Should play more on mom & pop America.  
People who shop ask their stores what will  
it mean for them.
- Less talk about programs - more how it impacts on me.

*HANNIS*

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 1/29/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 1/30/92 4:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FL. - TUESDAY, FEB. 4, 1992

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

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	—	✓	HORNER	—	—
SKINNER	—	✓	MCCLURE	✓	—
SCOWCROFT	✓	—	PETERSMEYER	—	—
DARMAN	✓	—	PORTER	<del>—</del>	—
BRADY	—	✓	ROGICH	✓	—
BROMLEY	—	—	SMITH	✓	—
CARD	—	✓	<u>BOSKIN</u>	✓	—
DEMAREST	✓	—	<u>DELAND</u>	✓	—
FITZWATER	—	✓	<u>KAUFMAN</u>	—	✓
GRAY	✓	—	<u>FINDLAY</u>	—	✓
HOLIDAY	✓	—	<u>SNOW</u>	—	✓

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*→ JH see comments pp. 5 and 6.*

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

02 JAN 29 P2: 39

(Duggan/Simon)  
January 29, 1992  
Draft Three  
Grocers

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992  
[time]

[Acknowledgments, humor] - see insert A

It's a pleasure to be with you. I'll always remember the warm reception the National Grocers Association gave me when I addressed your 1985 convention in New Orleans. You gave me a good education about your business then, and I remember it still.

Of course, our world has changed dramatically since 1985. We won the Cold War. We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We have created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace.

redundant and spurious

But we've also <sup>temporary (treasury)</sup> run into hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up.

(Beach) again

Well, that's just plain bunk. We'll get up and running ~~in no time~~ -- and we'll do it the old-fashioned way: We'll use our common sense, our work ethic, our determination, and we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand how. You just stick with the basics. I proposed a common-sense action plan last week in my State of the Union address. It <sup>weaves jobs by</sup> gets <sup>getting</sup> ~~getting~~ investment going, because you can't build new businesses without

wo (OCA)

new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries -- especially real-estate. It hacks away obstacles to growth -- <sup>(Treas.) unnecessary/burdensome</sup> regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by cutting spending. And it builds on our strengths. It lets American workers and businesses show the world what they can do.

All over this country, families, businesses and even local governments have grasped a simple fact: The world has changed. The old ways won't do. If we want to remain the world's economic dynamo, we've got to get leaner and tougher. We've got to change with the times, and abandon old ways from the old days.

More to the point, we've got to get Washington moving toward the 21st Century. To do that, I need your help. <sup>and you can deliver (Kaufman)</sup> I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will <sup>create jobs by getting (OCA)</sup> get our economy moving and growing again -- and I've given Congress a deadline: March 20. Circle that Friday on your calendar. I have. Call it \*J-Day: The day by which Congress needs to take a few simple steps to create good American jobs -- now.

Here's what I want by \*J-Day. First, incentives to <sup>make productive</sup> investments: <sup>needed changes to the</sup> ~~an amended~~ alternative minimum tax and a 15-percent investment tax allowance, <sup>and a permanent</sup> research and development tax credit.

Second, incentives to build and buy real-estate: A change in passive-loss rules for active real-estate <sup>\*developers (OCA)</sup> ~~investors~~; penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for first-time homebuyers, and a \$5,000 tax credit for the first purchase of that first home.

\* J-day is a bad idea - Kaufman

\* Important: big difference → not available to "investors"

(D. Smith)

Expand on jobs aspect and 60% who will be helped by cuts -

3

yes

(Steve Vert)

Lower Dep Expend means more investment - more investment means more jobs.

Third, incentives to succeed: Cut the capital gains tax.

This tax hurts anyone who has made a sensible investment -- in a home, a business, a farm, even a pension plan. None of our key economic competitors taxes gains at high rates -- Japan's effective rate comes to about 1 percent; Germany doesn't tax long-term capital gains at all. The world's fastest growing economies let people collect their capital gains tax-free. Let's stop penalizing excellence. <sup>(Treasury) savings and investment.</sup> Cut the capital gains tax -- now.

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In the meantime, I've initiated some reforms that will get the economy moving -- without having to wait for Congress to act.

no X

(OCA)

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Now, no one objects to the stated aims of these regulations: health and safety and respect for the environment are classic, Mom-and-apple pie social values. But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy.

and she won't be able to afford what pie is left. (Kaufman)

redraft

(ODP)

(OCA)

the 61-men picking apart your business

yes

no

(Steve Hart) ✓ you  
We have not lost the

I ran a council on deregulation for eight years, as vice president. And I'm here to assure you <sup>(Hart)</sup> ~~of my commitment~~ <sup>(Treasury)</sup> ~~to prudent~~ <sup>of my commitment to prudent</sup> ~~regulation.~~ <sup>The spirit of progress regulation.</sup>

deregulation is back. I want you to be able to spend your time worrying about what you can do for your customers -- rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you.

The greatest lesson of this century is: Government micromanagement doesn't work. After seventy years of tragic failure, the leaders in Moscow finally recognize that total government regulation produces only one thing: total failure. Now, Russians want to try something different -- like grocery stores with groceries on the shelves.

I find it a bitter irony that some in Congress still favor government coercion and control over freedom and competition.

It's as though we'd entered a time warp. When I hear ~~the shrill sounds of "soak the rich" demagoguery -- when I hear politicians demand more taxes, regulations, government coercion and control,~~ I wonder: ~~Where have these people been for the past three years?~~

modified  
to fix  
(Beach)

where have they been for the past 300 years! (OCA)

Let me make you a promise: If Congress sends me any <sup>typical unreasonable</sup> ~~new~~ <sup>which costs jobs by making (OCA)</sup> ~~legislation to make economic regulation more intrusive, more burdensome,~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~more unreasonable, I'll veto it. Here's an example:~~

The so-called FDA enforcement bill. I'm sure those of you who sell your own private-label groceries aren't exactly thrilled by the prospect of <sup>(Simon)</sup> ~~regulatory G-Men prowling around America's food factories and piling on new record-keeping burdens. But that's just what some in Congress want to do. Well, let me tell you in~~

other too

~~no uncertain terms: That bill, and coercive bills like it, are big fat targets for my veto pen.~~

And if Congress sends unfunded mandates down to state and local governments, I'll tell ~~it~~ <sup>\* them (COCA)</sup> to make a choice: Pay for the mandates without raising taxes, or get ready for a veto. The federal government spends too much money as it is. It has no right to force state and local governments to accept new burdens.

Again, Congress can help get the economy moving if it will stop demagoging and do the right thing. Remember: March 20.

But we also need to look beyond the J-Day agenda. I proposed an <sup>nine (Simon)</sup> ~~eight~~-point long-term plan in my State of the Union address. ~~I want to highlight three of those measures today.~~ <sup>Let me give you some highlights: (D2)</sup>

First, let's <sup>create American jobs by opening (COCA)</sup> ~~open~~ up and <sup>ing</sup> expand markets all over the world. A revolutionary new GATT agreement will make the world trading system come to grips with the damaging tariffs and <sup>export (COCA)</sup> subsidies in agriculture. And by tearing down economic barriers with Mexico and Canada, a new North American Free Trade Agreement will lift us to new heights of prosperity. <sup>It will create new American jobs. (Simon)</sup>

Second, let free choice and free markets reform our health care system. <sup>soon will</sup> I've proposed a health insurance tax credit <sup>to help those without health insurance buy it.</sup> ~~of up~~ to \$3,750 for each low-income family. My plan also assures that <sup>workers</sup> Americans will have access to basic health insurance even if they change jobs or develop serious health problems. We can't improve health care by jeopardizing <sup>jobs of low wage workers.</sup> ~~the financial health of labor-intensive businesses.~~ That's why I'll never sign my name to any

won't be proposed until 2/6, after this

(D2) make this real -- never say never

\* don't depersonalize Congress make individuals responsible

same program  
if was  
open study.

part the

to do

Allowing others copy

\* Incorporate: This government is far too big and spends too much.  
(Should work well on page 6 - Kaufman)

means job loss [for those who are just getting by.]

mandated benefit  
scheme that

6  
~~costs jobs by mandating the (OCA)~~  
~~mandates benefits an employer should pay.~~

Third, let's strengthen the family -- the cornerstone of the American dream. Let's ease the burden of child-rearing. The personal tax exemption has not kept up with inflation. In 1948 (?), the personal exemption was set at \$---. In 1992 dollars, that exemption would be worth \$---. But over the years, we've only increased the exemption to \$---. I'm asking Congress immediately to increase the exemption for each child by \$500. We can afford this move in the right direction.

Raises the question why are you so skimp? Why didn't you raise it all the way back to '48 value?

(Simon) 600  
(Simon) 3,400  
(Simon) 2,200

Look at my economic proposals and you will find simple, plain solutions to our problems. Some may complain that they lack the flash of an expensive new program. But I'm not seeking spending for spending's sake. I want results. My plan is sound and it will work.

If you hear people in Congress gripe that they can't get the job done by March 20, remind them: We won the Gulf War in 45 days. Surely Congress can pass my urgent domestic initiatives in 52 or 53 days. Remember, Congress can act with lightning speed when it wants to. It took the House of Representatives just one day to shut down its bank and thereby stop its little problem with check-bouncing.

you  
44 (Simon)

you  
(Steve Hart)

So: Accept no excuses. Accept no delays. And accept no substitutes.

With your help -- we'll get America moving again soon.  
Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

# # #

AVOID this formulation

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 1/29/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 1/30/92 4:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FL. - TUESDAY, FEB. 4, 1992

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

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	=	✓	HORNER	=	=
SKINNER	=	✓	MCCLURE	✓	=
SCOWCROFT <i>nil</i>	✓	=	PETERSMEYER	=	=
DARMAN	✓	=	PORTER	✓	=
BRADY	=	✓	ROGICH <i>MC</i>	✓	=
BROMLEY	=	=	SMITH	✓	=
CARD	=	✓	BOSKIN <i>MC</i>	✓	=
DEMAREST	✓	=	DELAND <i>MC</i>	✓	=
FITZWATER	=	✓	KAUFMAN	=	✓
GRAY <i>Holmstead 7953</i>	✓	=	FINDLAY	=	✓
HOLIDAY	✓	=	SNOW	=	✓

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

(Duggan/Simon)  
January 29, 1992  
Draft Three  
Grocers

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1992  
[time]

[Acknowledgments, humor]

It's a pleasure to be with you. I'll always remember the warm reception the National Grocers Association gave me when I addressed your 1985 convention in New Orleans. You gave me a good education about your business then, and I remember it still.

Of course, our world has changed dramatically since 1985. We won the Cold War. We led a coalition in the Gulf to crush Saddam Hussein's aggression in Kuwait. We have created a world with the prospects of unprecedented prosperity and peace.

But we've also run into hard times. Our economy has slowed down, and we must get it fired up again. The professional pessimists tell us America has become weak and disabled -- that our economy has fallen and it can't get up.

Well, that's just plain bunk. We'll get up and running in no time -- and we'll do it the old-fashioned way: We'll use our common sense, our work ethic, our determination, and we'll carry the entire world into the Next American Century.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to understand how. You just stick with the basics. I proposed a common-sense action plan last week in my State of the Union address. It gets investment going, because you can't build new businesses without

new investment. It strengthens the industries that historically have led us into recoveries -- especially real-estate. It hacks away obstacles to growth -- regulations, high taxes, nuisance lawsuits. It cuts the federal deficit by cutting spending. And it builds on our strengths. It lets American workers and businesses show the world what they can do.

All over this country, families, businesses and even local governments have grasped a simple fact: The world has changed. The old ways won't do. If we want to remain the world's economic dynamo, we've got to get leaner and tougher. We've got to change with the times, and abandon old ways from the old days.

More to the point, we've got to get Washington moving toward the 21st Century. To do that, I need your help. I've asked Congress to enact some laws that will get our economy moving and growing again -- and I've given Congress a deadline: March 20. Circle that Friday on your calendar. I have. Call it J-Day: The day by which Congress should have taken a few simple steps to create good American jobs -- now.

Here's what I want by J-Day: First, incentives to invest: an amended alternative minimum tax and a 15-percent investment tax allowance.

Second, incentives to build and buy real-estate: A change in passive-loss rules for active real-estate investors; penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for first-time homebuyers, and a \$5,000 tax credit for the first purchase of that first home.

Third, incentives to succeed: Cut the capital gains tax.

This tax hurts anyone who has made a sensible investment -- in a home, a business, a farm, even a pension plan. None of our key economic competitors taxes gains at high rates -- Japan's effective rate comes to about 1 percent; Germany doesn't tax long-term capital gains at all. The world's fastest growing economies let people collect their capital gains tax-free. Let's stop penalizing excellence. Cut the capital gains tax -- now.

Three measures, three pieces of common sense; three things Congress should do by March 20. I'm counting on your help.

In the meantime, I've initiated some reforms that will get the economy moving -- without having to wait for Congress to act. Here's one you'll like: I've imposed a 90-day freeze on federal regulations that could hinder economic growth. During that period, all departments and agencies will review regulations, old and new -- to stop the ones that will hurt growth and speed up those that will help growth.

I see from your convention schedule that you have a workshop entitled: "The Regulators Are Back." No wonder: You can't get through a day without having to worry about workplace safety regulations, food safety regulations, environmental regulations. No one objects to the stated aims of these regulations: Health and safety and respect for the environment are classic, Mom-and-apple pie social values. But you know better than anyone that when regulators carry regulation too far, there won't be any apple pie for Mom to buy.

I ran a council on deregulation for eight years, as vice president. And I'm here to assure you: The spirit of deregulation is back. I want you to be able to spend your time worrying about what you can do for your customers -- rather than fretting about what some regulator might do to you.

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# # #