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# FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.**

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

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**OA/ID Number:** 13603  
**Folder ID Number:** 13603-005

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**Folder Title:**  
Las Vegas University Medical Hospital 2/6/92 [OA 6097]

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<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>

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keep coming back to what works for this country. Think about the challenges that we face as a Nation. Anyone who is concerned about competitiveness has to see controlling health care costs as key to a healthy economy. We've got to make certain our reform corrects our weaknesses without destroying our strengths. When we talk about health care, we're talking about matters of the most personal nature, in some cases literally life and death and decisions that go with it. We don't need to put Government between patients and their doctors. We don't need to create another wasteful Federal bureaucracy. As President I simply will not let that happen.

We need commonsense, comprehensive health care reform, and we need it now. And my plan I really believe is the right plan, a plan that meets our obligation to all Americans by putting hope and health within their reach.

Cleveland has led the way. Your hospitals, COSE, citizens in this community are way out front for these principles. And it's most appropriate that I give this speech to the Nation on health care reform right here in this city that is leading the way.

Once again, my thanks for this warm Cleveland welcome. May God bless you all and the United States of America. Thank you very, very much.

*Note: The President spoke at 12:36 p.m. at the Stouffer Tower City Plaza Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Robert B. Horton, chairman of British Petroleum, and Mark Price, a member of the Cleveland Cavaliers basketball team. He also referred to the association's Council of Small Enterprises (COSE).*

**Remarks to the Staff of the University Medical Center of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas, Nevada**

*February 6, 1992*

Thank you all very much. And again, I apologize if we've kept this distinguished group, busy people, waiting. But we're delighted to be here. It's kind of a hit-and-run

day. It started in Cleveland where I announced the fundamentals of a new national approach for health care which I intend to work very hard for. But I want to thank Dr. Brandness and single out the Governor of the State who has been most hospitable to me since we've been here. Also Barbara Vucanovich, who is a Congressman here, a great friend of mine of long-standing, and simply say that I'm very pleased to be here to thank all of you for this afternoon's tour.

You can't help but when you walk through these halls and see the incredible work and dedication of the people, as we saw both at the neonatal care and the burn care center, you can't help but count your blessings for those who are devoting their lives to helping others. When you see somebody treating babies like that, tiny preemies, or those ravaged by burns, it just, at least in my heart, evokes tremendous gratitude and admiration for what you do. So, I hope you know that people outside the medical profession are extraordinarily grateful to those who give of themselves as you all do.

I did release this comprehensive health care program earlier today. And let me just, without giving you the full load, summarize a little bit. I know you're used to extended debates about health care. You probably get a lot of requests for free advice on this subject and many others. But I think everyone understands that all of you do something that politicians sometimes forget, and that is that America's medical system offers the best care in the world.

It's not simply that we start with the scientific and research end with far more Nobel Prize winners in medicine than any other country. It is just generally the quality of care. And when people from other countries seek the best possible care, you just have to look, where do they go? Well, they come to the United States of America.

And with all the problems and all the breathless press reports about health care, I think of the guy who got in a car accident. And when he got to the hospital, the doctor set his broken bones, examined him carefully, and assured him that he could go home the next day. The next day came, and the doctor rushed to the patient's room with a look of great anxiety and concern. "Is some-

thing wrong?" the patient said. The doctor replied, "I'm not sure. Just to be safe, I'd like you to stay another day. You see, I didn't know how badly you were injured until I read about your accident in the newspaper." [Laughter]

Well, there's a parallel here. Reports of the demise of American medicine in my view are greatly exaggerated. And I will repeat, American medicine is the best in the entire world. My comprehensive health care plan builds on the strengths, on these strengths of our medical care system. I will not endorse, nor go with a nationalized—they used to say socialized medicine—a nationalized plan that will guarantee only long lines, indifferent service, and very high taxes.

And I've worked hard to come up with a plan that will work. And that's the plan that we are proposing. It addresses Americans' basic concerns about health care: that too many people don't have access to care, I think we could all agree on that; that it costs too much; and that you can't be sure of keeping coverage if you change your job or you or someone in your family has an illness or an injury. This plan ensures that every worker, regardless of health status, can get health care coverage, can choose providers, can afford care, and can keep it.

Let me just outline the plan in brief for you. It's got four points. One, we make health care affordable by offering a health insurance tax credit, a voucher, to low-income individuals and families, and then a health insurance tax deduction to middle-income individuals and families. Poor people who pay no taxes at all are covered, and they'll get insurance for free. These measures will help 95 million Americans purchase the health insurance that they need.

Two, we improve the efficiency of our system by reforming the insurance system and developing what we call health insurance networks. You probably refer to it as pooling. These networks will improve efficiency, and they literally will help drive insurance costs down. We make consumers of health care better able to compare costs, keep competition in the health care system.

Three, we're going to work hard to wring out the waste and excess. And we start by putting a lid on these outrageous medical

Feb. 6 / Administration of George Bush, 1992

malpractice lawsuits. Over the past decade malpractice insurance—the premiums have risen by an average of more than 15 percent per year. This national epidemic of lawsuits has persuaded some doctors to avoid such vital specialties as surgery or obstetrics. America's love for the lawsuit has just got to stop. And we've got legislation up there trying to do something about it. And it really is important in cost control, as everyone knows. It's very, very fundamentally important in how we pay for the whole program.

Fourth, we're going to get the growth of Federal health programs under control. This isn't easy politically, but we've got to do it. Medicaid went up 38 percent this year alone. And we'll encourage major innovation at the State and local levels, and we'll do this without cutting benefits. And I believe it can be done without raising taxes.

America has been blessed by the world's best doctors, the best hospitals. I heard today how this hospital has been able to battle down the costs, eliminating some of the deficit that has been around. We've got the finest training institutions in this country; really, we have the finest. And this plan will not undermine this base of quality and excellence. You don't need your hands bound by redtape either, and you don't need these stethoscopes replaced by Federal millstones.

Having been around hospitals and blessed by seeing loving care for our kids, I am absolutely convinced that the medical profession is dedicated to the concept of service. This debate must not diminish that, must not take that away from the medical community at all. And I think you need our support. Everyone has got to play a part. I'm prepared to play mine in building a healthier Nation.

Every hospital depends also, as we all know, not just on professionals but also on volunteers. And you know this better than anyone, all of you do. Hundreds of thousands of people across this country, in literally hundreds of thousands of groups and organizations give their time to make medical care accessible to others. And every community relies not just on professionals, not just on physicians but also on teachers, on counselors, on nurses, people giving of themselves to help others along the path to good health. Our Secretary of HHS, Dr. Lou Sullivan, has

Administration

talked eloquently in health. He's paign to encourage teaches people a behavior, promote

Celebrities, i Schwarzenegger lifestyles. I might head of our Con taken it very seri all pro bono, and that the young p sponding to. So, I don't know a says exercise, I point I'm trying a role. And this one to work toge

And so, I just tors across this the audience he here but around that you've emb on the challenge am determined t that will work. think we can do i the wonder of in lence. That's the pinning of this I don't want to see assemble witho So, please help with us.

And thank you few minutes for in Cleveland wh in Cleveland and about this plan, Diego tomorrow. it's been a joyous for what you do across this countr

Note: The Presi University Medic he referred to Dr. ecutive officer of of Southern Neva for verification c marks.



# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/5/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

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

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	—	✓	HORNER	—	✓
SKINNER	—	✓	CALIO	—	✓
SCOWCROFT	—	—	PETERSMEYER	□	✓
DARMAN	—	✓	PORTER	□	✓
BRADY	—	✓	ROGICH	□	✓
BROMLEY	—	—	SMITH	□	✓
CARD	—	—	MOORE	□	✓
DEMAREST	—	✓	FINDLAY	□	✓
FITZWATER	—	✓	KAUFMAN	—	✓
GRAY	—	✓	SNOW	—	✓
HOLIDAY	—	✓		—	—

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

32 FEB 5 P4:34

February 5, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVE DEMAREST

FROM: TONY SNOW TS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REMARKS TO STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL HOSPITAL, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, February 6, 1992 at 4:00 p.m. you will deliver remarks to an audience of 60 physicians at the University Medical Center Hospital in Las Vegas, Nevada.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (approximately 8 minutes / cards) reiterate the four points of your health plan unveiled earlier in the day.

SNOW/BUNTON  
VEGAS3  
DRAFT THREE  
FEBRUARY 4, 1992

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE  
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1992  
4 P.M.

Thank you all, and thank you, Dr. Brandness for that introduction.

This is an extraordinary medical center, and I want to thank you for this afternoon's tour. Let me tell you, no one who walks through these halls, and sees the incredible work you do in the neonatal care unit and the burn unit -- no one who sees you treating young babies or helping those ravaged by horrible burns -- can have anything but the greatest admiration and gratitude for what you do. I know that this is National Burn Awareness week. \\

As you know, I released my comprehensive health care proposal earlier today. I'd like to talk a few minutes about how that plan fits into your work.

Now, I know you're used to extended debates about health care. You probably can't get through a family reunion without at least a dozen requests for free advice. \\ But your families understand something that politicians sometimes forget: America's medical system offers the best care in the world. When people from other countries seek the best possible care, they come here. That includes many of our Canadian neighbors.

With all the complaints and all the breathless press stories about health care -- I think of the story about a fellow who got in a car accident. When he got to the hospital a doctor set his broken bones, examined him carefully and assured him he could go home the next day.

But when the next day came, the doctor rushed into the patient's room, with a look of great anxiety and concern. "Is something wrong?" the patient asked.

The doctor replied. "I'm not sure. Just to be safe, I'd like you to stay another day. You see, I didn't know how badly you were injured until I read about your accident in the newspaper." \

Well, reports of the demise of American medicine are greatly exaggerated. My comprehensive health care plan builds on the many strengths of our medical care system. I don't want to roll the dice -- that's a local reference -- on a nationalized plan that can guarantee only long lines, indifferent service, and very high taxes. I want a plan that will work.

That's my plan. It addresses Americans' basic concerns about health care: that it costs too much; that you can't always get access to care -- or if you do, you can't choose the doctors you want; and that you can't be sure of keeping coverage if you lose your job or fall victim to a debilitating injury or illness.

My plan ensures that everyone -- regardless of employment or health status -- can get health care coverage, can choose providers, can afford care, and can keep it.

Here's my four-point plan in brief. One: We make health care affordable by offering a health-insurance tax credit to low-income individuals and families, and a health insurance tax deduction to middle income individuals and families. These measures will help 95 million Americans purchase the health insurance they need.

Two: We improve the efficiency of our system by developing health insurance networks. These networks drive costs down.

Three: We wring out waste and excess -- and we start by putting a lid on outrageous medical malpractice lawsuits. Over the past decade, malpractice insurance premiums have risen by an average of more than 15 percent per year -- in effect, fining people simply because they want to heal others. This national epidemic of lawsuits has persuaded some doctors not avoid such vital specialties as surgery or obstetrics. That's just insane.

Four: We'll get federal health programs under control, and encourage innovation at the state and local levels -- without cutting benefits and without raising tax rates.

America has been blessed by the world's best doctors, best hospitals and finest training institutions. My health care plan will reward your hard work. You don't need your hands bound by red tape. You don't need your stethoscopes replaced by federal millstones. You need the freedom to serve others.

You also need support. Everyone must play a part in building a healthier nation.

Every hospital depends not just on professionals, but also on volunteers. Hundreds of thousands of people around this country, in thousands of groups and organizations, give their time to make medical care accessible to others. Every community relies not just on physicians, but also on teachers, counselors, nurses -- people who teach, who show others the path to good health.

My Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Louis Sullivan, has talked eloquently about the role of character in health. He has mounted an effective campaign to encourage preventive care. He teaches people about good habits, and promotes the cause of immunization.

Celebrities, including Arnold Schwarzenegger, promote active, healthy lifestyles. I don't know about you, but when Arnold says, "Exercise!" I do it.

The point is, everyone has a role. And my plan encourages everyone to work together.

Congratulations on the challenging and noble careers you have chosen. Together, we'll make the world's best health care system even better -- and we'll show the world once again that there's nothing Americans can't do.

Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

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# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/5/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 2/5/92 3:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE

SUBJECT: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA - THURS. 2/6/92 4:00pm

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	—	✓	HORNER	—	✓
SKINNER	—	✓	CALIO	✓	—
SCOWCROFT	—	—	PETERSMEYER	✓	—
DARMAN	✓	—	PORTER	✓	—
BRADY	—	✓	ROGICH	✓	—
BROMLEY	—	—	SMITH	✓	—
CARD	—	—	MOORE	—	✓
DEMAREST	✓	—	FINDLAY	—	✓
FITZWATER	—	✓	KAUFMAN	—	✓
GRAY	✓	—	SNOW	—	✓
HOLIDAY	✓	—		—	—

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 3:00 p.m., Today, WED. FEBRUARY 5, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*No Comment* *Walter Shaub for OS*

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

SNOW/BUNTON  
VEGAS2  
DRAFT TWO  
FEBRUARY 4, 1992

92 FEB 5 All: 41

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE  
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1992  
4 P.M.

Thank you all, and thank you, Dr. Brandness for that introduction.

This is an extraordinary medical center, and I want to thank you for this afternoon's tour. Let me tell you, no one who walks through these halls, and sees the incredible work you do in the neonatal care unit and the burn unit -- no one who sees you treating young babies or helping those ravaged by horrible burns -- can have anything but the greatest admiration and gratitude for what you do. I know that this is National Burn Awareness week. \\

As you know, I released my comprehensive health care proposal earlier today. I'd like to talk a few minutes about how that plan fits into your work.

Now, I know you're used to extended debates about health care. You probably can't get through a family reunion without at least a dozen requests for free advice. \\ But your families understand something that politicians sometimes forget: America's medical system offers the best care in the world. When people from other countries seek the best possible care, they come here. That includes many of our Canadian neighbors.

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But when the next day came, the doctor rushed into the patient's room, with a look of great anxiety and concern. "Is something wrong?" the patient asked.

The doctor replied. "I'm not sure. Just to be safe, I'd like you to stay another day. You see, I didn't know how badly you were injured until I read about your accident in the newspaper." \

Well, reports of the demise of American medicine are greatly exaggerated. My comprehensive health care plan builds on the many strengths of our medical care system. I don't want to roll the dice -- that's a local reference -- on a nationalized plan that can guarantee only long lines, indifferent service, and very high taxes. I want a plan that will work.

That's my plan. It addresses Americans' basic concerns about health care: that it costs too much; that you can't always get access to care -- or if you do, you can't choose the doctors you want; and that you can't be sure of keeping coverage if you lose your job or fall victim to a debilitating injury or illness.

My plan ensures that everyone -- regardless of employment or health status -- can get health care coverage, can choose providers, can afford care, and can keep it.

Here's my four-point plan in brief. One: We make health care affordable by offering a health-insurance credit to low-income individuals and families, and a health insurance tax deduction to middle income individuals and families. These measures will help 95 million Americans purchase the health insurance they need.

Two: We improve the efficiency of our system by developing health insurance networks. These networks drive costs down.

Three: We wring out waste and excess -- and we start by putting a lid on outrageous medical malpractice lawsuits. Our legal system too often treats healers like criminals -- and it persuades dedicated doctors not to pursue such vital specialties as surgery or obstetrics. Over the past decade, medical malpractice insurance premiums have risen by an average of more than 15 percent per year. That's just insane.

Four: We'll get federal health programs under control, and encourage innovation at the state and local levels -- without cutting benefits and without raising tax rates.

America has been blessed by the world's best doctors, and the world's finest training institutions. My health care plan will reward your hard work. American doctors don't need their healing hands bound by red tape. You don't need your

stethoscopes replaced by federal millstones. You need the freedom to serve others.

You also need support. Everyone must play a part in building a healthier nation.

Every hospital depends not just on professionals, but also on volunteers. Every community relies not just on physicians, but also on teachers, counselors, nurses -- people who teach, who show others the path to good health.

My Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Louis Sullivan, has talked eloquently about the role of character in health. He has mounted an effective campaign to encourage preventive care. He teaches people about good habits, and promotes the cause of immunization. Celebrities, including Arnold Schwarzenegger, promote active, healthy lifestyles. I don't know about you, but when Arnold says, "Exercise!" I do it.

The point is, everyone has a role. And my plan encourages everyone to work together.

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# # # #

SNOW/BUNTON  
VEGAS4  
DRAFT FOUR  
FEBRUARY 4, 1992

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE  
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1992  
4 P.M.

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# # # #

Document No. 305378ss

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

92 JAN  
3  
P.6:3

DATE 2/5/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 2/5/92 3:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE

SUBJECT: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA - THURS. 2/6/92 4:00pm

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	—	✓	HORNER	—	✓
SKINNER	—	✓	CALIO	✓	—
SCOWCROFT	—	—	PETERSMEYER	✓	—
DARMAN	✓	—	PORTER	✓	—
BRADY	—	✓	ROGICH	✓	—
BROMLEY	—	—	SMITH	✓	—
CARD	—	—	MOORE	—	✓
DEMAREST	✓	—	FINDLAY	—	✓
FITZWATER	—	✓	KAUFMAN	—	✓
GRAY	✓	—	SNOW	—	✓
HOLIDAY	—	—		—	—

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

*See comments. Thanks.  
PK*

*Paul Korta  
02/05/92*

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

SNOW/BUNTON

VEGAS2

DRAFT TWO

FEBRUARY 4, 1992

02 FEB 5 All: 41

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE  
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1992  
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Delete

2

(OCA)

Delete

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(HHS)

Delete

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3

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Four: We'll get federal health programs under control, and encourage innovation at the state and local levels -- without cutting benefits and without raising tax rates.

America has been blessed by the world's best doctors, and the world's finest training institutions. My health care plan will reward your hard work. American doctors don't need their healing hands bound by red tape. You don't need your

4

stethoscopes replaced by federal millstones. You need the freedom to serve others.

You also need support. Everyone must play a part in building a healthier nation.

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My Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Louis Sullivan, has talked eloquently about the role of character in health. He has mounted an effective campaign to encourage preventive care. He teaches people about good habits, and promotes the cause of immunization. Celebrities, including Arnold Schwarzenegger, promote active, healthy lifestyles. I don't know about you, but when Arnold says, "Exercise!" I do it.

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Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

# # # #

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING REQUEST



Subject

Presidential Remnants' Health Care Las Vegas  
Nevada - Thurs. 2/16/92

Date/Time Received:

2/5/92 12:25

RESPONSE DUE:

Due 2:00 PM  
2/5/92

Response due to Director's Office Support Group, Room 254, Ext. 3060.  
Please respond to every staffing request, even if you have no comment.

Distribution Within OMB

*Tuina 122*

Action

FYI

Action

FYI

<input type="checkbox"/>	Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Deputy Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dep. Dir./Mgmt.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Al-Samarrie, A.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anderson, B.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Burman, A.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dale, E.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Damus, R.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grady, R.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hale, J.	<input type="checkbox"/>

<input type="checkbox"/>	Howard, R.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legis. Affairs	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lieberman, S.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	MacRae, J.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Martin, B.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mazur, E.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Murr, J.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Scully, T.</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Rockefeller N.</u> (Other)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 2/5/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 2/5/92 3:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE

SUBJECT: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA - THURS. 2/6/92 4:00pm

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	—	✓	HORNER	—	✓
SKINNER	—	✓	CALIO	✓	—
SCOWCROFT	—	—	PETERSMEYER	✓	—
DARMAN	—	—	PORTER	✓	—
BRADY	—	✓	ROGICH	✓	—
BROMLEY	—	—	SMITH	✓	—
CARD	—	—	MOORE	—	✓
DEMAREST	✓	—	FINDLAY	—	✓
FITZWATER	—	✓	KAUFMAN	—	✓
GRAY	✓	—	SNOW	—	✓
HOLIDAY	✓	—		—	—

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 3:00 p.m., Today, WED. FEBRUARY 5, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

32 FEB 5 All: 41-

SNOW/BUNTON  
VEGAS2  
DRAFT TWO  
FEBRUARY 4, 1992

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE  
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1992  
4 P.M.

Thank you all, and thank you, Dr. Brandness for that introduction.

This is an extraordinary medical center, and I want to thank you for this afternoon's tour. Let me tell you, no one who walks through these halls, and sees the incredible work you do in the neonatal care unit and the burn unit -- no one who sees you treating young babies or helping those ravaged by horrible burns -- can have anything but the greatest admiration and gratitude for what you do. I know that this is National Burn Awareness week. \\

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Now, I know you're used to extended debates about health care. You probably can't get through a family reunion without at least a dozen requests for free advice. \\  
But your families understand something that politicians sometimes forget: America's medical system offers the best care in the world. When people from other countries seek the best possible care, they come here. That includes many of our Canadian neighbors.



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	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	—	✓	HORNER	—	✓
SKINNER	—	✓	CALIO	✓	—
SCOWCROFT	—	—	<b>PETERSMEYER</b>	✓	—
DARMAN	✓	—	PORTER	✓	—
BRADY	—	✓	<b>ROGICH</b> <i>N/C</i>	✓	—
BROMLEY	—	—	SMITH	✓	—
CARD	—	—	MOORE	—	✓
<b>DEMAREST</b>	✓	—	FINDLAY	—	✓
FITZWATER	—	✓	KAUFMAN	—	✓
<b>GRAY</b> <i>Request</i>	✓	—	SNOW	—	✓
HOLIDAY	✓	—		—	—

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DRAFT TWO  
FEBRUARY 4, 1992

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# # # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 5, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVE DEMAREST

FROM: TONY SNOW *TS*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REMARKS TO STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL HOSPITAL, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, February 6, 1992 at 4:00 p.m. you will deliver remarks to an audience of 60 physicians at the University Medical Center Hospital in Las Vegas, Nevada.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (approximately 8 minutes / cards) reiterate the four points of your health plan unveiled earlier in the day.

SNOW/BUNTON  
VEGAS3  
DRAFT THREE  
FEBRUARY 4, 1992

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE  
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1992  
4 P.M.

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Now, I know you're used to extended debates about health care. You probably can't get through a family reunion without at least a dozen requests for free advice. \\ But your families understand something that politicians sometimes forget: America's medical system offers the best care in the world. When people from other countries seek the best possible care, they come here. That includes many of our Canadian neighbors.

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That's my plan. It addresses Americans' basic concerns about health care: that it costs too much; that you can't always get access to care -- or if you do, you can't choose the doctors you want; and that you can't be sure of keeping coverage if you lose your job or fall victim to a debilitating injury or illness.

My plan ensures that everyone -- regardless of employment or health status -- can get health care coverage, can choose providers, can afford care, and can keep it.

Here's my four-point plan in brief. One: We make health care affordable by offering a health-insurance tax credit to low-income individuals and families, and a health insurance tax deduction to middle income individuals and families. These measures will help 95 million Americans purchase the health insurance they need.

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Four: We'll get federal health programs under control, and encourage innovation at the state and local levels -- without cutting benefits and without raising tax rates.

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 5, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVE DEMAREST

FROM: TONY SNOW *TS*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REMARKS TO STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL HOSPITAL, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

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SNOW/BUNTON  
VEGAS3  
DRAFT THREE  
FEBRUARY 4, 1992

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE  
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1992  
4 P.M.

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# # # #

92 JAN 5 P2: **WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**



DATE: 2/5/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 2/5/92 3:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE

SUBJECT: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA - THURS. 2/6/92 4:00pm

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

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*Please see comments on pages 3 & 4. Thank you.*

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY  
Assistant to the President  
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Ext. 2702

SNOW/BUNTON  
VEGAS2  
DRAFT TWO  
FEBRUARY 4, 1992

92 FEB 5 All: 41-

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE  
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*Their efforts provide a human touch that no government program can match.*

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# # # #

*Throughout the United States, hundreds of thousands of individuals, and countless groups and organizations, give of their time to make healthcare more accessible for others.*

SNOW/BUNTON  
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
DRAFT TWO  
FEBRUARY 4, 1992

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE  
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
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4 P.M.

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This is an extraordinary medical center, and I want to thank you for this afternoon's tour. Let me tell you, no one who walks through these halls, and sees the incredible work you do in the neonatal care unit and the burn unit -- no one who sees you treating young babies or helping those ravaged by horrible burns -- can have anything but the greatest admiration and gratitude for what you do. I know that this is National Burn Awareness week. \\

As you know, I released my comprehensive health care proposal earlier today. I'd like to talk a few minutes about how that plan fits into your work.

Now, I know you're used to extended debates about health care. You probably can't get through a family reunion without at least a dozen requests for free advice. \\ But your families understand something that politicians sometimes forget: America's medical system offers the best care in the world. When people from other countries seek the best possible care, they come here. That includes many of our Canadian neighbors.

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With all the complaints and all the breathless press stories about health care -- I think of the story about a fellow who got in a car accident. When he got to the hospital a doctor set his broken bones, examined him carefully and assured him he could go home the next day.

But when the next day came, the doctor rushed into the patient's room, with a look of great anxiety and concern. "Is something wrong?" the patient asked.

The doctor replied. "I'm not sure. Just to be safe, I'd like you to stay another day. You see, I didn't know how badly you were injured until I read about your accident in the newspaper." \ \

Well, reports of the demise of American medicine are greatly exaggerated. My comprehensive health care plan builds on the many strengths of our medical care system. I don't want to roll the dice -- that's a local reference -- on a nationalized plan that can guarantee only long lines, indifferent service, and very high taxes. I want a plan that will work.

That's my plan. It addresses Americans' basic concerns about health care: that it costs too much; that you can't always get access to care -- or if you do, you can't choose the doctors you want; and that you can't be sure of keeping coverage if you lose your job or fall victim to a debilitating injury or illness.

My plan ensures that everyone -- regardless of employment or health status -- can get health care coverage, can choose providers, can afford care, and can keep it.

Here's my four-point plan in brief. One: We make health care affordable by offering a health-insurance credit to low-income individuals and families, and a health insurance tax deduction to middle income individuals and families. These measures will help 95 million Americans purchase the health insurance they need.

Two: We improve the efficiency of our system by developing health insurance networks. These networks drive costs down.

Three: We wring out waste and excess -- and we start by putting a lid on outrageous medical malpractice lawsuits. Our legal system too often treats healers like criminals -- and it persuades dedicated doctors not to pursue such vital specialties as surgery or obstetrics. Over the past decade, medical malpractice insurance premiums have risen by an average of more than 15 percent per year. That's just insane.

Four: We'll get federal health programs under control, and encourage innovation at the state and local levels -- without cutting benefits and without raising tax rates.

America has been blessed by the world's best doctors, and the world's finest training institutions. My health care plan will reward your hard work. American doctors don't need their healing hands bound by red tape. You don't need your

stethoscopes replaced by federal millstones. You need the freedom to serve others.

You also need support. Everyone must play a part in building a healthier nation.

Every hospital depends not just on professionals, but also on volunteers. Every community relies not just on physicians, but also on teachers, counselors, nurses -- people who teach, who show others the path to good health.

My Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Louis Sullivan, has talked eloquently about the role of character in health. He has mounted an effective campaign to encourage preventive care. He teaches people about good habits, and promotes the cause of immunization. Celebrities, including Arnold Schwarzenegger, promote active, healthy lifestyles. I don't know about you, but when Arnold says, "Exercise!" I do it.

The point is, everyone has a role. And my plan encourages everyone to work together.

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Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

# # # #

Document No. 305378ss

*92 JAN 5 P3:00*  
**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 2/5/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 2/5/92 3:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE

SUBJECT: LAS VEGAS, NEVADA - THURS. 2/6/92 4:00pm

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	—	✓	HORNER	—	✓
SKINNER	—	✓	CALIO	✓	—
SCOWCROFT	—	—	PETERSMEYER	✓	—
DARMAN	✓	—	PORTER	✓	—
BRADY	—	✓	ROGICH	✓	—
BROMLEY	—	—	SMITH	✓	—
CARD	—	—	MOORE	—	✓
DEMAREST	—	—	FINDLAY	—	✓
FITZWATER	—	✓	KAUFMAN	—	✓
GRAY	✓	—	SNOW	—	✓
HOLIDAY	✓	—		—	—

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 3:00 p.m., Today, WED. FEBRUARY 5, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*Good*

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

SNOW/BUNTON  
VEGAS2

DRAFT TWO

FEBRUARY 4, 1992

32 FEB 5 All: 46

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HEALTH CARE  
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1992  
4 P.M.

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2

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3

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*too strong?*

*best hospitals*

4

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Thank you. May God bless you and the United States of America.

# # # #

HEALTH CARE \ UNIVERSITY MEDICAL HOSPITAL <sup>DAVE</sup>  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA \ THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1992 \ 4 P.M.

THANK YOU ALL, AND THANK YOU, DR. BRANDSNESS FOR THAT INTRODUCTION. REP. BARBARA VUCANOVICH FLEW DOWN HERE WITH ME, I'M PLEASED YOU COULD JOIN US.

THIS IS AN EXTRAORDINARY MEDICAL CENTER, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THIS AFTERNOON'S TOUR. LET ME TELL YOU, NO ONE WHO WALKS THROUGH THESE HALLS, AND SEES THE INCREDIBLE WORK YOU DO IN THE NEONATAL CARE UNIT AND THE BURN UNIT (I'D MENTION THIS IS NATIONAL BURN AWARENESS WEEK) --

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- 2 -

NO ONE WHO SEES YOU TREATING YOUNG BABIES OR HELPING THOSE RAVAGED BY HORRIBLE BURNS -- CAN HAVE ANYTHING BUT THE GREATEST ADMIRATION AND GRATITUDE FOR WHAT YOU DO. YOU SHOULD BE VERY, VERY PROUD OF YOURSELVES. \ \

AS YOU KNOW, I RELEASED MY COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE PROPOSAL EARLIER TODAY. I'D LIKE TO TALK A FEW MINUTES ABOUT HOW THAT PLAN FITS INTO YOUR WORK.

NOW, I KNOW YOU'RE USED TO EXTENDED DEBATES ABOUT HEALTH CARE. YOU PROBABLY CAN'T GET THROUGH A FAMILY REUNION WITHOUT AT LEAST A DOZEN REQUESTS FOR FREE ADVICE. \ \ BUT YOUR FAMILIES UNDERSTAND SOMETHING THAT POLITICIANS SOMETIMES FORGET: AMERICA'S MEDICAL SYSTEM -- YOU -- OFFER THE BEST CARE IN THE WORLD. WHEN PEOPLE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES SEEK THE BEST POSSIBLE CARE -- WHERE DO THEY GO? -- THEY COME TO THE UNITED STATES.

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WITH ALL THE PROBLEMS AND ALL THE BREATHLESS PRESS STORIES ABOUT HEALTH CARE -- I THINK OF THE STORY ABOUT A FELLOW WHO GOT IN A CAR ACCIDENT. WHEN HE GOT TO THE HOSPITAL A DOCTOR SET HIS BROKEN BONES, EXAMINED HIM CAREFULLY AND ASSURED HIM HE COULD GO HOME THE NEXT DAY.

BUT WHEN THE NEXT DAY CAME, THE DOCTOR RUSHED INTO THE PATIENT'S ROOM, WITH A LOOK OF GREAT ANXIETY AND CONCERN. "IS SOMETHING WRONG?" THE PATIENT ASKED.

THE DOCTOR REPLIED. "I'M NOT SURE. JUST TO BE SAFE, I'D LIKE YOU TO STAY ANOTHER DAY. YOU SEE, I DIDN'T KNOW HOW BADLY YOU WERE INJURED UNTIL I READ ABOUT YOUR ACCIDENT IN THE NEWSPAPER." \\  
\\

WELL, REPORTS OF THE DEMISE OF AMERICAN MEDICINE ARE GREATLY EXAGGERATED. AMERICAN MEDICINE IS THE BEST IN THE ENTIRE WORLD. MY COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE PLAN BUILDS ON THE MANY STRENGTHS OF OUR MEDICAL CARE SYSTEM.

I DON'T WANT TO ROLL THE DICE -- THAT'S A LOCAL REFERENCE -- ON A NATIONALIZED PLAN THAT CAN GUARANTEE ONLY LONG LINES, INDIFFERENT SERVICE, AND VERY HIGH TAXES. I WANT A PLAN THAT WILL WORK.

THAT'S THE PLAN WE'RE PROPOSING. IT ADDRESSES AMERICANS' BASIC CONCERNS ABOUT HEALTH CARE: THAT TOO MANY PEOPLE DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO CARE; THAT IT COSTS TOO MUCH; AND THAT YOU CAN'T BE SURE OF KEEPING COVERAGE IF YOU CHANGE YOUR JOB, OR IF YOUR OR SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY HAS AN ILLNESS OR AN INJURY.

MY PLAN ENSURES THAT EVERY WORKER -- REGARDLESS OF HEALTH STATUS -- CAN GET HEALTH CARE COVERAGE, CAN CHOOSE PROVIDERS, CAN AFFORD CARE, AND CAN KEEP IT.

HERE'S THE PLAN IN BRIEF. IT'S GOT FOUR POINTS. ONE: WE MAKE HEALTH CARE AFFORDABLE BY OFFERING A HEALTH-INSURANCE TAX CREDIT -- A VOUCHER -- TO LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES, AND A HEALTH INSURANCE TAX DEDUCTION TO MIDDLE INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES.


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POOR PEOPLE WHO PAY NO TAXES ARE COVERED AND WILL GET INSURANCE FOR FREE. THESE MEASURES WILL HELP 95 MILLION AMERICANS PURCHASE THE HEALTH INSURANCE THEY NEED.

TWO: WE IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF OUR SYSTEM BY REFORMING THE INSURANCE SYSTEM AND DEVELOPING HEALTH INSURANCE NETWORKS. THESE NETWORKS WILL IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND HELP DRIVE INSURANCE COSTS DOWN.

WE MAKE CONSUMERS OF HEALTH CARE BETTER ABLE TO COMPARE COSTS -- KEEP COMPETITION IN THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

THREE: WE WRING OUT WASTE AND EXCESS -- AND WE START BY PUTTING A LID ON OUTRAGEOUS MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LAWSUITS. OVER THE PAST DECADE, MALPRACTICE INSURANCE PREMIUMS HAVE RISEN BY AN AVERAGE OF MORE THAN 15 PERCENT PER YEAR. AND THIS NATIONAL EPIDEMIC OF LAWSUITS HAS PERSUADED SOME DOCTORS NOT AVOID SUCH VITAL SPECIALTIES AS SURGERY OR OBSTETRICS. AMERICA'S LOVE FOR THE LAWSUIT HAS JUST GOT TO STOP.



FOUR: WE'LL GET THE GROWTH OF FEDERAL HEALTH PROGRAMS UNDER CONTROL -- MEDICAID WENT UP 38 PERCENT THIS YEAR ALONE -- AND WE'LL ENCOURAGE MAJOR INNOVATION AT THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS. WE'LL DO THIS WITHOUT CUTTING ANY BENEFITS AND WITHOUT RAISING TAX RATES.

AMERICA HAS BEEN BLESSED BY THE WORLD'S BEST DOCTORS, BEST HOSPITALS AND FINEST TRAINING INSTITUTIONS. MY HEALTH CARE PLAN WILL REWARD YOUR HARD WORK.

★ YOU DON'T NEED YOUR HANDS BOUND BY RED TAPE. YOU DON'T NEED YOUR STETHOSCOPES REPLACED BY FEDERAL MILLSTONES. I WANT YOU TO TRULY HAVE THE FREEDOM TO SERVE OTHERS.

YOU NEED OUR SUPPORT. EVERYONE MUST PLAY A PART IN BUILDING A HEALTHIER NATION.

EVERY HOSPITAL DEPENDS NOT JUST ON PROFESSIONALS, BUT ALSO ON VOLUNTEERS. HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE AROUND THIS COUNTRY, IN LITERALLY HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS, GIVE THEIR TIME TO MAKE MEDICAL CARE ACCESSIBLE TO OTHERS.

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EVERY COMMUNITY RELIES NOT JUST ON PHYSICIANS, BUT ALSO ON TEACHERS, COUNSELORS, NURSES -- PEOPLE GIVING OF THEMSELVES TO HELP OTHERS ALONG THE PATH TO GOOD HEALTH.

MY SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DR. LOUIS SULLIVAN, HAS TALKED ELOQUENTLY ABOUT THE ROLE OF CHARACTER IN HEALTH. HE HAS MOUNTED AN EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGN TO ENCOURAGE PREVENTIVE CARE.

HE TEACHES PEOPLE ABOUT GOOD HABITS, DECENT BEHAVIOR,  
AND PROMOTES THE CAUSE OF IMMUNIZATION.

CELEBRITIES, INCLUDING ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER,  
PROMOTE ACTIVE, HEALTHY LIFESTYLES. I DON'T KNOW ABOUT  
YOU, BUT WHEN ARNOLD SAYS, "EXERCISE!" I DO IT.

THE POINT IS, EVERYONE HAS A ROLE. AND MY PLAN  
ENCOURAGES EVERYONE TO WORK TOGETHER.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE CHALLENGING AND NOBLE  
CAREERS YOU HAVE CHOSEN.

TOGETHER, WE'LL MAKE THE WORLD'S BEST HEALTH CARE  
SYSTEM EVEN BETTER -- AND WE'LL SHOW THE WORLD ONCE  
AGAIN THAT THERE'S NOTHING AMERICANS CAN'T DO.

THANK YOU. MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA.

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