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Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, March 16, 1994

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE TAKES UP PRESIDENT'S ANTI-CRIME PLAN

- On the heels of victories in last week's House subcommittees, the President's comprehensive crime package today moves to the House Judiciary Committee for consideration. Among the numerous elements designed to curb violent crime in America as effectively, efficiently and quickly as possible are:
 - * The President's "Three Strikes and You're Out" mandatory life imprisonment proposal, which passed the Crime Subcommittee with bipartisan support.
 - * A broad range of key crime prevention programs, including the Ounce of Prevention program, the after-school Community Youth Services program, and Midnight Sports, which underscore the President's dual punishment-and-prevention approach to reduce crime.
 - * Drug Courts and other Supervised Release Programs for drug-abusing offenders, which offer a sensible and successful alternative to incarceration for drug offenders within the criminal justice system.
 - * Prison grants to states that take appropriate measures to ensure that the most serious violent offenders are put behind bars for a long time.
 - * Restoration of an enforceable death penalty for the most heinous of federal offenses. As the President has stated, this provision, which has garnered clear bipartisan support, is an important element of a comprehensive legislative anti-crime program.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, March 15, 1994

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- As part of the President's overall anti-crime strategy, the Administration supports new federal efforts aimed at curbing gender-motivated violence and improving restitution to victims of such crime. The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women provision creates a federal cause of action for violence perpetrated against an individual because of their gender.
- Under the Violence Against Women proposal, victims of a felony crime of violence may bring a civil suit for damages or equitable relief in federal or state court, provided that the crime they suffered was committed because of gender and due, at least in part, to animus based on the victim's gender.
- The Violence Against Women provision is both fair and smart. It's fair because it addresses those situations in which victims are without redress due to inadequate state remedies, and allows victims improved access to federal courts. The proposal is smart because it does not clog federal dockets by automatically labelling whole categories of offenses as gender-motivated; proof of the perpetrator's animus is a prerequisite to recovery.
- The proposal also creates new federal offenses, such as fleeing across state lines in violation of a stay away or protection order.
- The Violence Against Women provision funds grant programs aimed at reducing and preventing violence against women, as well. Programs provided for include:
 - * State grants (\$870 million over three years) to: expand and strengthen victim services and programs, such as rape crisis centers, battered women's shelters, and rape and family violence programs; train law enforcement officers to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women; and expand law enforcement units specifically to target violent crimes against women.
 - * Victim Counselors (\$1.5 million) to help victims and witnesses in sex and domestic violence cases.
 - * Safe Colleges, targeting \$20 million to rape and violence prevention and education on college campuses.
 - * Help for the Homeless and Runaways, which provides \$10 million to help alleviate the problem of homeless and runaway women and girls through street-based education and outreach programs and counseling and treatment for runaway, homeless and street youth who are at risk of being subjected to sexual abuse.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

Monday, March 14, 1994

HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEES APPROVE KEY ELEMENTS OF PRESIDENT'S CRIME PLAN

- The momentum behind the President's crime proposals is steadily building on Capitol Hill. Markups in House subcommittees last week saw passage of a number of key Administration anti-crime provisions.
- * The President's "Three Strikes and You're Out" mandatory life imprisonment proposal, strongly backed by Rep. Charles Schumer, sailed through Schumer's Crime and Criminal Justice subcommittee on a 10 to 3 bipartisan vote. The message being sent is loud and clear: this Administration will not tolerate violent crime.
- * Several crime prevention elements supported by the President were also approved by Rep. Schumer's subcommittee, including the Ounce of Prevention program, the after-school Community Youth Services program, and Midnight Sports.
- * The President's proposals for Drug Courts and other Supervised Release Programs for substance-abusing offenders, which offer creative and successful method for dealing with drug offenders within the criminal justice system, were likewise ratified by the Schumer subcommittee.
- * A major state prison grant program, which allows states to efficiently lock up more violent criminals more quickly and for a longer period of time than through a federal regional prison system, found bipartisan support in and was passed by Rep. William Hughes's Subcommittee on Intellectual Property and Judicial Administration.
- * The death penalty, an important component of the President's comprehensive anti-crime package, was overwhelmingly passed by the Crime and Criminal Justice subcommittee in a bipartisan vote of 10 to 3.
- * Also approved by the same subcommittee was the Administration's Police Corps proposal, providing higher education assistance to students who make a commitment to work in law enforcement following graduation.

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Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

Friday, March 11, 1994

ADMINISTRATION ANTI-CRIME PROPOSALS IN SCHUMER SUBCOMMITTEE MARKUP

● Today, the House Subcommittee on Crime and Criminal Justice chaired by Rep. Charles Schumer (D-NY) meets to markup several important parts of the President's anti-crime proposal. They include the following:

- * The Administration's "Three Strikes and You're Out" mandatory life imprisonment proposal. This provision sends a strong message that violent crime will not be tolerated by targeting truly dangerous criminals and taking them off our streets for good. It has been hailed by Congressman Schumer as a "very carefully drawn" provision which deals with the problems of other proposals "that would have included all kinds of low-level drug dealers."
- * A broad range of new preventive policies, which underscore the Administration's dual anti-crime approach of punishment and prevention. Among the prevention programs in markup garnering Administration support is the "Ounce of Prevention" program, providing \$600 million over the next three years to state and local governments, educational institutions, community-based organizations, and other public and private entities for youth-oriented recreational and educational programs (Midnight Sports League, after-school programs, etc.) and youth services (mentoring, job placement, substance abuse and treatment, etc.).
- * Drug Courts and other Supervised Release Programs for drug-abusing offenders. The Attorney General, who has been a pioneer in developing alternative methods for dealing with drug offenders within the criminal justice system, has led the national debate on adopting such programs. Her experience in Florida -- augmented by data from approximately 20 other cities -- reveals that Drug Courts can be successful in preventing drug offenders from becoming more dangerous criminals and can help them turn toward productive lives in society.
- * Restoration of an enforceable death penalty for the most heinous of federal offenses. As the President has stated, this provision is an important element of a comprehensive legislative anti-crime program.
- * Police Corps and Law Enforcement Scholarships, which provide higher education assistance to students who make a commitment to work in law enforcement following graduation, as well as scholarships for in-service officers and summer and part-time employment for high school students in law enforcement agencies.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

March 10, 1994

PRESIDENT CLINTON ADDRESSES FORUM ON CRIME AND NATIONAL SERVICE

- Bringing people together in their communities and encouraging them to assume some responsibility in dealing with violence are the themes of President Clinton's address today to the Forum on Crime and National Service in New York.
- In his remarks, the President remembers Kitty Genovese, a young woman who was stabbed to death outside of her apartment building 30 years ago this week. Her story reveals the cost violence exacts from the psyche of our nation. Although 38 witness watched or listened as Kitty Genovese's attacker stabbed her several times, not one called the police or came to the woman's aid. No one wanted to get involved. On that night thirty years ago, it seemed as if the value of responsibility meant only being responsible for yourself.
- Today, we often seem to face that same indifference. When we see the tragedy that violent crime perpetrates, our reaction all too often is to hunker down inside, turn our backs, raise the drawbridge and leave the problem to others. We are a nation seized by fear—fear of getting involved, fear of reaching out to one another, fear of walking the streets of our neighborhoods, our city streets and our public parks. And no nation is free when it must hide behind locked doors, imprisoned by its own fear.
- We must change the basic attitudes of our nation. We must learn how to be neighbors once again. Each of us has a serious responsibility to do our part; Government cannot do the job alone.
- The American people can take back their communities, and one of the best ways is through the Administration's national service program, AmeriCorps. Involving 20,000 service workers of all ages and backgrounds, AmeriCorps offers young people an opportunity to serve our country by helping their communities. AmeriCorps service workers engage in substantive, skill-building work, from immunizing our babies, tutoring our children, and cleaning up our parks, to helping make our schools and streets safer. Making a difference by reconnecting with our communities — that's what AmeriCorps is all about.
- This summer, we will also make a difference by giving our citizens something to say "yes" to. Through this year's Summer of Safety, 6,000 individuals will come together across generations, ethnicities, and income levels to engage in direct, locally-based service to strengthen the ability of communities to respond to problems of crime, violence and fear. Participants will help police monitor victim assistance hotlines, clean up dangerous parks and alleys, provide crime prevention workshops to families, and help organize neighborhood watch programs.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation March 9, 1994

ADMINISTRATION BACKS PREVENTION PROGRAMS

- The Administration and the Congress are developing a comprehensive offensive against crime in America that emphasizes the dual approach of **PUNISHMENT AND PREVENTION**. Law enforcement efforts to control crime are essential to making our communities safer, but equally important is developing effective policies to prevent crime.
- The Administration strongly endorses a broad range of new and ongoing preventive policies, from initiatives closely associated with law enforcement, such as community policing, to efforts aimed more toward empowering communities and individuals, like job and job training opportunities.
- Our focus is on those most vulnerable to the distress that crime and violence breeds: young Americans. The Administration supports programs aimed at offering young people real hope and better alternatives by creating youth services, providing educational, job training and placement opportunities, and reducing youth violence and crime.
- Crime prevention efforts are an important component in the Crime Bill. Among the many Crime Bill prevention programs supported by the Administration are:
 - * The Community Policing program which strikes the ideal balance between law enforcement and crime prevention by promising 100,000 more cops walking the beat on America's streets and in her communities;
 - * "Ounce of Prevention" program, providing \$600 million over the next three years to state and local governments, educational institutions, community-based organizations, and other public and private entities for youth-oriented recreational and educational programs (Midnight Sports League, after-school programs, etc.) and youth services (mentoring, job placement, substance abuse and treatment, etc.);
 - * GREAT, Gang Reduction Education and Training Project, which allots \$40 million for 50 projects nationwide aimed at reducing gang activity;
 - * Police Partnerships, giving \$20 million to working partnerships between local law enforcement and public or private organizations formed to help children and families whose lives are beset by crime, through training and crisis intervention services;
 - * Correctional Job Training, job training and placement services provided by Bureau of Prisons;
 - * Juvenile Drug Trafficking and Gang Prevention Grants aimed at reducing the participation of young people in gangs and drug-related crimes through a variety of programs, such as youth training in nonviolent dispute resolution.

- * Drug treatment for crime-committing addicts, such as that available through Drug Courts; and
- * Safe Schools program to combat crime, violence and drugs in our children's classrooms.
- Other Administration crime prevention measures include:
 - * The Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities initiative which targets certain economically distressed communities for revitalization, based on a community-driven, community-based strategy for revitalization;
 - * Job Corps, a highly intensive, residential ("boarding-school" type) program whose services include basic skills, vocational training, social skills training, career and drug abuse counseling, job search assistance and placement. The program's success has led the Administration to propose a \$117 million increase in FY 1995, a boost of 11 percent from the previous year;
 - * The National Service program which provides thousands of young Americans with an opportunity to acquire real skills through public service, while at the same time assisting in their educational costs; and
 - * COMPAC, the Community Partnership Against Crime, which augments the public housing drug elimination program by supporting a community-based approach to public housing crime, including community policing, anti-gang programs, youth programs, and other initiatives that engage such groups and the Boys and Girls Clubs, churches, and private nonprofit organizations; and
 - * Weed and Seed, an interagency initiative in 21 communities nationwide designed to combat crime and revitalize neighborhoods through enhanced law enforcement, community policing and prevention, early intervention, and treatment programs.
- These efforts do not comprise the entire panoply of prevention programs garnering Administration support. They do, however, demonstrate a real commitment to a new, multidisciplinary approach to curbing crime in America.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

March 9, 1994

CERTAINTY OF PUNISHMENT FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS

- All too often, young offenders learn that the consequence for committing a crime is to be put on probation. That's it. In other circumstances, young non-violent offenders are thrown in with our most hardened criminals where they learn the "right way" to commit crimes.
- By providing alternative sanctions to probation or hard-core, long-term incarceration, young offenders can learn that there is a certainty of punishment at the initial stages of a criminal career. That lesson learned my nip a new criminal career in the bud. Some alternative sanctions include: shock incarceration, electronic monitoring, weekend incarceration, home incarceration, restitution programs, vocational programs, community service, intensive supervised probation and other innovative and non-traditional options which ensure swift and certain punishment.
- "Boot Camps" are one such alternative which provide penal authorities with a viable sentencing solution for young offenders. Frequently called "shock incarceration" programs, boot camps place young offenders in a quasi-military program similar to a military basic training program that instills discipline, routine, and respect for authority.
- The rationale behind boot camps is four-fold: First, a substantial number of youthful first-time offenders now incarcerated will respond to a short but intensive period of confinement followed by a longer period of intensive community supervision. Second, these offenders will benefit from a military-style atmosphere that instills a sense of self-discipline and physical conditioning that was lacking in their lives. Third, these same youths need exposure to relevant educational and vocational training, drug treatment, and general counseling services to develop more positive and law-abiding values and become better prepared to secure legitimate future employment. Finally, the costs involved will be less than a traditional criminal justice sanction that imprisons the offender for a substantially longer period of time.
- Typically, boot camps target offenders who otherwise would have been sentenced to prison for at least one year. To date, 28 state prison systems are operating 43 boot camp programs with more states planning to follow. While they have their critics, the early data suggests that boot camps are better than prison in terms of recidivism and cost.
- A critical component of boot camps and other alternative sanctions is the intensive post-release monitoring that occurs to ensure that those motivated have every opportunity to get their lives on the right track.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

March 8, 1994

100,000 NEW POLICE OFFICERS/COMMUNITY POLICING

- Putting 100,000 police officers into Community Policing is the foundation of the Administration's overall anti-crime strategy, combining increased police presence with the development of partnerships with communities to create safer neighborhoods. It will not be funded by new taxes, but through reductions in the federal bureaucracy -- 252,000 fewer federal employees over the next five years by attrition. It's a good swap -- the savings we achieve through this 12 percent reduction we will put into fighting crime.
- We need a stronger police presence, not just to catch criminals but to prevent crime. The Administration's Community Policing initiative will put more officers on our streets who know their neighborhoods and how to work with residents to reduce and control crime. This is an approach which will have a truly lasting impact on crime and disorder. Community Policing means police departments forging truly effective partnerships with their communities to bring together tough law enforcement and meaningful crime prevention in a way that meets the specific needs of the community -- everyday.
- Federal funding for this initiative will be linked to a locality's need and its commitment to actively build public safety partnerships with public and private agencies that address the underlying conditions related to crime and disorder.
- The vast majority of the funds awarded under this initiative will help to hire, rehire, and redeploy 100,000 police officers -- money well-spent. Some funds will also be available to help implement community policing, training, and related activities. Multi-year grants to hire, rehire, and redeploy officers may be made for up to five years, over which period federal assistance will decrease as localities assume a larger role.
- We have already made a downpayment on the promise of 100,000 new officers with the first two rounds of grant awards under a smaller, \$50 million program directed by the Attorney General called the Police Hiring Supplement. In the first two rounds of this program, \$76 million has been awarded to 108 jurisdictions nationwide to help pay for the hiring or rehiring of 1,022 additional law enforcement officers. A third round will be announced soon. However, fewer than one out of every ten applications can be funded out this program. Passing the Crime Bill will ensure that we will be able to assist all of the jurisdictions that need help, not just a few.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

March 7, 1994

"THREE STRIKES AND YOU'RE OUT"

- The Administration's "Three Strikes and You're Out" bill sends a strong message that those who repeatedly commit serious violent crimes against others will be punished severely.
- The Administration's bill imposes life imprisonment on a person who commits a serious violent felony against another under federal law, after having been convicted of two or more previous violent felonies (under either federal or State law). The bill is aimed at those offenders who fail to get the message and change their conduct even after repeated convictions for violent offenses. Individuals with such criminal histories should be put away for good.
- The proposal is both tough and smart: It targets those truly dangerous offenders in our society without sweeping so broadly as to include persons convicted of crimes that, although serious enough to warrant significant sentences, should not result in mandatory life imprisonment. Study after study reveals that a significant percentage of crime is committed by a relatively small group of criminals. These repeat offenders will fall under the net of this proposal.
- The Administration's bill limits its coverage to "serious violent felonies," such as murder, rape, sexual abuse, kidnapping, and using a gun in drug crimes.
- Under the plan, "life" is real life. Why? First, because there is no reliable method for determining the point at which a particular individual becomes safe enough for release. Any question of doubt as to whether such persons are safe to come back into our communities should be resolved on behalf of the innocent public, not the violent felon. Second, because we already know that the behavior of some offenders -- such as those who sexually molest children -- may not change, regardless of the offender's age.
- Life imprisonment for violent offenses is not new. We already impose such a penalty on individuals who commit particularly serious and heinous crimes -- even for first-time offenders. Incapacitating dangerous people is an important purpose of the Administration's proposal, but is not the sole one. As with other life sentences, this proposal is also intended to deter violent crime, particularly among those who have shown a propensity to commit such crime in the past, as well as to deliver certain, severe punishment to such persons when they commit their third violent offense. Society will not tolerate such criminals any longer.

- Although not a cure-all, this proposal, along with other Administration crime-fighting efforts -- such as truth-in-sentencing, community policing, more money for prisons, and prevention programs -- can go along way toward curbing violent crime in our communities.
- **Kudos:** The proposal has won broad praise. Marc Klaas, whose daughter Polly was kidnapped from her home in California and murdered last fall, has said, "I think its a marvelous bill." Rep. Charles Schumer (D-NY) called it "very carefully drawn," a proposal which "deals with the problems of the Senate bill that would have included all kinds of low-level drug dealers." And even the skeptical Washington Post said of the Administration's plan, "The President is moving in the right direction. . . . [I]t is a much better proposal than either of the two provisions passed by the Senate."

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Talking Points
TV Guide Interview
March 3, 1994

OPENING STATEMENT

* Violent crime and the fear it provokes are ripping this country apart. It is time to set politics aside and respond to real people's real fears. We're working hard to pass a tough, smart crime bill that will put 100,000 more police on the streets, reduce gun violence, and get violent criminals off the street. Our people have a right to feel safe.

* But it's not enough to change our laws. We have to change our culture. Parents need to take more responsibility for their children. No parent should let a child watch a TV show they haven't already watched themselves. We need to restore a sense of community where neighbors look out for one another. And we need to join together as a society and say that we will no longer tolerate behavior that is bad for us. We're not going to take it anymore.

TALKING POINTS ON TV VIOLENCE

1. There is too much violence on TV. That troubles me, as it does most parents.

2. But the worst violence on TV is the reality we see every night on the evening news. TV is a window on what's happening in our society. It has drawn attention to the huge problem of crime in this country, and I hope it will help spur us to action. The nightly news isn't making this stuff up. I hope we never get to the point where people getting killed doesn't make the evening news.

3. The entertainment industry has an important job to do if we're going to break the culture of violence in this country. We in government are doing all we can to put more police on the streets and get violent criminals off the street. But the entertainment industry can do a lot, too. Popular culture rallied behind the designated driver campaign, and look at the results: automobile deaths have gone down 25% nationwide since the campaign began.

If we can teach kids to stop driving drunk, we ought to be able to teach them to stop having children before they're ready, and to stop shooting each other in school.

I'm encouraged that the entertainment industry is finally talking about this, but I want to challenge them to do more. TV can never be a parent, but it can be a teacher. We ought to see the public airwaves used to bring out the best in us, not the worst.

Federal Anti-Violent Crime Enforcement Initiative: March 1, 1994

ATTORNEY GENERAL JANET RENO:

TALKING POINTS

- The goal of the President's Anti-Violent Crime Enforcement Initiative is simple: Amass every law enforcement weapon at our disposal -- federal, state and local -- and target those weapons directly at violent criminals. It's time to link up local expertise and federal resources across America.
- We are going to get at the problems of violent crime and gangs by wielding the same weapons we used so successfully against organized crime: undercover operations and stings -- electronic surveillance -- investigative grand juries -- the Federal Witness Protection program.
- Here is what the Clinton Administration will do:
 - We're going to start in Washington. The Department of Justice will create a new Violent Crime Section and form Violent Crime Response Teams. The members of these strike teams will be prosecutors expert at convicting violent criminals and narcotics traffickers. They will be ready to travel across the country to help design tough investigations and winning prosecutions.

Federal Anti-Violent Crime Enforcement Initiative: March 1, 1994

- Second, we will use the federal law enforcement arsenal to work with state and local police and prosecutors:

- We'll help localities decide on the most promising methods to crack cases: Undercover narcotics buys -- wired informants -- electronic surveillance -- the insertion of an undercover police officer into a gang or drug ring. All of these weapons will be considered, and the best ones will be brought to bear out on the streets.

- We'll find the best statutory tools available: pre-trial detention laws -- stiffer federal sentences -- state and federal prosecutions for narcotics and firearms offenses -- laws targeting criminal enterprises -- immigration laws to rapidly disable criminal aliens who are committing violent crimes.

- We'll conduct tough, thorough investigations. Here we will work side-by-side and draw on the special strengths of the state, federal and local agencies. If the investigation calls for electronic surveillance, federal help might be needed. If the strategy involves flipping a vulnerable gang member or drug runner, the federal Witness Protection Program could be used. If undercover operations are used, state and local resources may be most useful.

Federal Anti-Violent Crime Enforcement Initiative: March 1, 1994

- We'll help turn those arrests into convictions. United States Attorneys will assign federal prosecutors full-time to anti-gang and anti-violence work.

- In order to make this work, we will help create working partnerships among federal, state and local law enforcement. We are instructing every United States Attorney to work with all state and local law enforcement agencies to convene urgent summits in their areas.

- That working group will coordinate the comprehensive federal, state and local push against violent criminals.

- These working groups will identify and prioritize the most severe violent crime problems. In many cases, we will target the growing problem of gang violence.

- The working groups will inventory all available law enforcement resources and determine what federal investigative and prosecutorial tools can best be used to attack violent crime and drugs.

Federal Anti-Violent Crime Enforcement Initiative: March 1, 1994

- This strategy isn't just a theory; It has worked-- in New Haven, Connecticut. A comprehensive coordinated state, federal and local anti-gang strategy there cut new Haven's murder rate by one-third in 1993. Eighteen members of the New Haven Jungle Boys street gang were convicted of federal crimes and sentenced to more than twenty years in prison. Other Connecticut gangs are now facing similar prosecutions.

- But cooperation isn't just a good idea for pilot projects and test cities- we have to make it work across America, every day. That's why this is different- and can make a difference.

Together with the Crime Bill, the President's plan will create working partnerships with law enforcement throughout the country, put more police on the street, put more gang members behind bars, and take more guns out of the hands of criminals.

CRIME PREVENTION AND THE 1994 CRIME BILL

One of the major differences between the 1994 crime bill and past anti-crime measures is an increased emphasis on crime prevention efforts that target our youth. The bill will increase prevention programs by about \$7 billion -- an substantial increase from what we currently spend -- and provide, for the first-time, a cabinet-level coordinating mechanism for the implementation of these programs.

Why spend so much money on prevention programs? It's simple. While some in Washington have played politics with prevention programs -- fueling the dead-end "prevention vs. punishment" debate -- youth crime has risen dramatically. Prevention by itself is not the answer, but it's a crucial part of a comprehensive attack on youth crime.

HERE ARE THE SAD FACTS:

- **Youth violence has skyrocketed...** Over the past 10 years, the number of minors arrested for murder has soared more than 128%, and arrests for violent crimes overall have gone up 57%. In fact, a recent Northeastern University study indicates that almost all of the increase in criminal homicides in our big cities is attributable to the increased number of homicides committed by youth.
- **...as has the number of young victims.** Kids today are 2 1/2 times more likely than adults to be victims of violent crimes, and firearms kill more people between the ages 15 and 24 than all natural causes combined -- 14 children every day. Given these odds, the Center for Disease Control has rated youth violence as the nation's #1 health problem.
- **More kids are "packing" guns...** Since 1988, the number of kids arrested for illegally carrying or possessing a handgun has jumped by 66%. In total, some 35,000 kids are arrested on weapons charges -- that's about one fifth of all arrests on weapons charges.
- **...and finding themselves staring down the barrel of a gun.** The number of kids murdered with guns has increased 79% since 1980. Playground disputes that once resulted in black eyes or bloody noses now end in gunfire. Today's neighborhood bully isn't the biggest kid on the block, but the one most likely to pull the trigger on his gun.
- **Our social institutions are growing weaker...** More and more kids from our poorest, hard-hit neighborhoods are growing up without the benefit of strong families, with little or no education and without the prospect of a decent job. Since 1950, the divorce rate has more than doubled, the number of children having to cope with divorce have more than tripled, and 3 times more children are being raised in single-parent families.

- **...but gangs are growing stronger and stronger.** In such an environment, gangs provide misguided youth with what they want most -- a sense of direction and belonging. That's why gangs and gang violence are now a problem in all of our nation's large cities and in an overwhelming percentage of smaller cities, too.
- **Even our schools have become less safe...** Nearly 3 million thefts and violent crimes occur on or near school campuses every year -- or about 16,000 incidents per school day, one every 6 seconds.
- **...and kids are spending less time there.** The number of high school sophomores participating in school-sponsored extracurricular activities has generally declined since 1980. Fewer kids are joining hobby and vocational clubs, participating in sports and cheerleading, and singing with the chorus or playing in the marching band.
- **And illegal drugs are making a comeback.** We already know that gangs, guns and drugs are problems that go hand in hand. But set against the backdrop of increased use and tolerance of illegal drugs by our 8th, 10th and 12th graders, we can be sure that youth violence is only going to get worse before it gets better.

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO YOUTH CRIME

The 1994 Crime Bill takes a tough -- but smart -- approach to youth crime. Here's what the bill proposes doing:

- **Get tough on hardened young criminals.** A relatively small number of young criminals commit a disproportionate number of violent crimes. Studies indicate that between 52% and 61% of serious youth crime can be attributed to 6 to 7.5% of all juveniles -- many of whom are in gangs. To deal with these hardened criminals the crime bill facilitates gang prosecutions, increases penalties and gives federal prosecutors the discretion to try 13-year olds as adults.
- **Keep guns out of the hands of young people.** Since guns play an increasing role in youth crime, we must do more to keep them out of the hands of troubled youth. For this reason, the crime bill bans the 19 deadliest assault weapons and, with certain exceptions, prohibits handguns from being possessed by or transferred to juveniles.
- **Turn young, non-violent offenders around.** The crime bill also includes billions of dollars to expand the use of community boot camps and drug courts to provide young offenders with the discipline, training and drug treatment and education to prevent them from embarking on a life of crime. By expanding the use of these alternative sentences, we can make sure that young offenders receive some form of punishment the first time they run into the law, not after having repeatedly gone through the revolving door of unrestricted probation.

- **Work to prevent crime from happening in the first place.** But as we tell our youth to say "no" to gangs, guns and drugs -- and appropriately punish those who break the rules -- we must give our kids something to positive to say "yes" to -- and prevent them from turning to a life of crime in the first place. Just as tough punishments for hardened young criminals are meaningless unless they are carried out, so too is a positive prevention message that isn't coupled with real opportunity -- and that means putting real money into wide array of prevention programs.

CRIME PREVENTION IS KEY

In total, the crime bill contains about \$7 billion over the next five years for a multitude of prevention programs, including: the President's YES program, which gives employment opportunities to kids in hard-hit, high-crime areas; the Ounce of Prevention Council, which funds after school programs and creates the first ever cabinet-level council to oversee and evaluate the federal government's prevention activities; and other similar initiatives.

But if you really want to know how the crime bill's prevention monies can make a difference, look at the prevention programs that -- in the absence of a federal commitment and leadership -- concerned parents, teachers and law enforcement officials throughout the country have championed. Here's a sampling of the many successful programs that could be replicated through the crime bill:

Prevention and Police

POLICE ATHLETIC TEAMS (PAT), Birmingham, AL -- PAT sponsors athletics and other programs in disadvantaged neighborhoods, sponsoring more than 300 teams in 52 neighborhoods. Police officers sponsor softball, basketball and baseball teams and tutoring. They also visit schools and talk about drug education, gang awareness and safety. For kids to be eligible, they must study for at least an hour every night and maintain a "C" average. Youth crime has dropped by 30% in PAT neighborhoods.

CHICAGO POLICE DEPT. INNER CITY LITTLE LEAGUE, Chicago, IL -- Mayor Daley of Chicago established the League as part of a broader response to crime in Chicago's public housing. The program is targeted to 9 to 13-year olds, who are vulnerable to gang recruitment. Police provide security and umpiring for the league, and parents and residents coach and manage the 16 teams of 15 boys and girls. The league also has drawn the support of Chicago's professional baseball teams, the White Sox and Chicago Cubs.

POLICE YOUTH BUREAU, Bismarck, ND -- The Youth Bureau is a diversion program for first and second time juvenile offenders. A professional youth worker is on call 24 hours a day to assist local law enforcement, schools, parents and kids in crisis, and provides family counseling and vocational training and organizes community services and victim compensation schedules. The Bureau sponsors and 8-

week anger management program and conducts several outreach program designed to promote positive police youth relations. These include canoeing, backpacking and mountain biking excursions, as well as a Cops 'n Kids Fishing Derby.

CAMP GRIMM, Alexandria, VA -- Camp Grimm is a summer camp established by the Alexandria Police Department for 8 to 12-year olds from low-income families. The camp provides recreational activities and tutoring, and is attended by some 500 to 600 kids annually.

IDAHO COMMUNITY POLICING PROJECT, Coeur d'Alene, ID -- This is a statewide project that helps local police in Idaho organize community-based crime prevention programs such as D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), anti-gang initiatives and school-based drug education programs. Police officers conduct seminars and workshops on drug abuse education to students, teachers, civic organizations and fellow law enforcement officers. The Project also serves as a clearinghouse of drug abuse and crime information for communities.

JUVENILE INTERVENTION PROJECT, Eagle, CO -- This program was conceived by police officers from the Eagle County Sheriff's Department who wanted to ensure immediate accountability for criminal behavior and give juveniles an opportunity to take responsibility for their actions. As part of the Project, the juvenile, his or her parents, a police officer and a coordinator sign a 6-month contract, in which the youngster agrees not to commit any crimes or use drugs; pay restitution; reside with a parent or legal guardian; go to school or hold down a full-time job; apologize to the victim; and write an exit essay on how he or she plans to stay out of trouble. Other contracts terms can be included, such as curfews, family counseling, restrictions on seeing co-defendants, community service, etc. Kids are also assigned volunteer law enforcement officers who serve as mentors and contact the juvenile some 5 times per week.

After School Programs and Community Centers

THE BEACON SCHOOLS, New York, NY -- Thirty-seven separate Beacons programs are operating across all 5 boroughs of New York City -- at least one Beacon in every community school district in the city. Beacons are school-based community organizations that provide activities and services to young people and their families after school, on weekends and during the summer -- and that serve as organizing center for neighborhood safety. Activities for youth include mediation/conflict resolution; volleyball, aerobics and basketball; creative writing, dance and choral singing; youth entrepreneurship and career counseling; and young parent workshops.

CITY STREETS, Phoenix, AZ -- City Streets operates 7 days a week in recreation centers, shopping malls and high schools throughout the city. Youth are actively involved in developing the program. Activities include rap sessions on teen issues, career fairs, health fairs, drug education, dance troupes, talent shows and Midnight

Madness -- a program for older teens that runs from 10pm to 1am during the summer. City Streets also includes a mobile teen center that visits 10 neighborhoods with high rates of gang violence, drug use and truancy.

THE DOOR, New York, NY -- The Door is the largest comprehensive health, education and cultural services center for disadvantaged youth in the nation. Some 300 young people between the ages of 12 and 21 are served daily. Services and activities include primary health care, vocational training, drug and alcohol abuse treatment, theater, gymnastics and dance. Each participating youth has a counselor who oversees his or her progress.

NEW CONCEPT SELF DEVELOPMENT CENTER, Milwaukee, WI -- New Concept operates in 3 sites and serves 7,500 predominantly low-income African-American youth. Programs focus on the entire family and are geared toward empowering families to achieve self-sufficiency and increase their ability to contribute to the community. The program has established 35 youth directed drug abuse prevention and education clubs called "Hang Tough" clubs. Other activities include conflict resolution and values clarification; employment readiness, job training and job placement; family planning; and family preservation and support services.

Recreational/Boys and Girls Clubs

CHALLENGER BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS, Los Angeles, CA -- Challengers is open from 7am to 7pm seven days a week and serves more than 2,200 kids between the ages of 6 and 17 each year. Parents are the key to success to this program. They are required to volunteer for eight hours per month as long as they have a child enrolled at Challengers. Between 35 and 40 parents can be found at the club on any given day. As one measure of the respect for the program in the community, Challenger's building was left untouched in the April 1992 riots in South Central Los Angeles.

JESSE WHITE TUMBLING TEAM, Chicago, IL -- More than 1,750 young people have been members of the Jesse White Tumbling Team since 1959, and the team currently has a waiting list of 4,000 young people. Today, some 75 primarily low-income, African-American youth between the ages of 6 and 26 travel around the Chicago area and to perform. About half the team members live or have lived in the Cabrini Green housing development. Participants also have an opportunity to develop their education skills.

Mentoring and Role Models

OMEGA BOYS CLUB, Oakland, CA -- Participants of this program are young men ages 13 to 21, most of whom live in public housing and have been involved in drugs and/or gang violence. All club members who stay off drugs and maintain passing grades are eligible for college scholarships. As of last year, Omega had sent a total of 118 young men to college -- and only 10 of the 118 have dropped out.

Academic enrichment is provided in the form of weekly tutorials and college prep classes, and "family meetings" -- similar to African rites of passage in which fathers pass on wisdom to their sons -- are held daily. The focus is on providing adult male role models for participants. Leaders use the works of Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, and Jesus, among others. Also, the Club's 2 directors host a 4-hour radio show each week entitled "Street Soldiers," which provides a forum for talking about the consequences of violence.

FIFTH WARD ENRICHMENT PROGRAM, Houston, TX -- This program was established in Houston's fifth ward, the city's most economically depressed area, to empower young black males who are at risk of dropping out of school, criminal involvement, drug abuse or becoming teen fathers. Approximately 300 African-American males between the ages of 11 and 17 are served each year by an all male staff who serve as role models. Activities include homework help; conflict resolution training; physical health and development including drug and alcohol awareness, health education, male responsibility, and sex education; field trips; peer counseling; and organized sports.

School-Based Violence Prevention/Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation

YOUTH CRIME WATCH, Miami, FL -- In the Youth Crime Watch program, each participating school forms a core groups, consisting of an advisor, a Youth Crime Watch Representative, students and other program staff. In turn, core group members serve as of the program to the rest of the school. The group tries to recruit students, define the school's needs, enhance the school climate, develop action plans, and sponsor activities for reducing campus crime. The groups also works hard to establish cooperative arrangements with local businesses, law enforcement officials and others in the community.

MEDIATED DISPUTE RESOLUTION (MDR), Racine, WI -- Located in an inner city neighborhood, Gilmore Middle school is composed of disadvantaged students from the neighborhood and bused-in rural and affluent suburban students. Administrators believed that the student mix might be "a recipe for disaster," but they not so. They credit MDR. MDR uses mediation sessions handled by a trained student mediator who sits down along with the two antagonists, takes 20 minutes to explain the MDR's rules and then helps them work through their problem. The parties in conflict explore viable solutions and generally come to some form of written agreement.

THE RESOLVING CONFLICT CREATIVELY PROGRAM (RCCP), New York, NY -- The RCCP is a conflict resolution curriculum developed by the New York City Board of Education and Educators for Social Responsibility Metropolitan Area. The curriculum focuses on showing young people alternatives to violent behavior and increasing their understanding and appreciations of their own and other cultures. Teachers can adapt the program for grade levels from K through 12 -- and can also train peer mediators to help implement what student learn. Today over 4,000 teacher

and 120,000 students are involved in RCCP nationwide, and the program is being modeled in 4 pilot sites. Early evaluations of RCCP show that teachers agree that the program has an overwhelmingly positive impact on students (less violence, more cooperation and a better understanding of different points of view).

Gang Prevention

SANE/GANG, Los Angeles, CA -- The SANE/GANG curriculum was developed by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to augment their SANE drug-abuse prevention program. It is designed to be taught by a teach and deputy sheriff and is offered to 4th, 5th and 6th graders. SANE/GANG gives kids an overview of the gang problem, helps them form a positive self identity apart from gangs, and teaches them how to resolve conflicts and deal with violence.

GANG RESISTANCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING (GREAT), Glynco, GA -- When Phoenix, AZ, law enforcement formed a partnership with local educators and community leaders to develop an innovative, comprehensive anti-gang program, the result was GREAT. Following the success of the Phoenix Project, other cities across the country have instituted GREAT, which goes into the classroom to prevent young students from joining gangs. Specially trained, uniformed police officers teach GREAT to 7th grade classes during the school year. In eight 1-hour sessions, students learn to set goals for themselves, act in their own best interest when faced with pressure and settle disputes peacefully. Police training for national expansion of GREAT is supported by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

Drug Education and Prevention

PARENTS AND YOUTH AGAINST DRUG ABUSE (PAYADA), Boise, ID -- Payada reaches 20,000 people annually with 2 drug education and prevention programs. In the first, police officers and counselors conduct three two-hour sessions on the dangers of tobacco, alcohol and inhalants for fifth through ninth graders and their parents. In the second, teens are taught leadership skills in 12 once-a-month sessions at Boise State University, and they go back to their schools and train others.

HIGH FIVE AMERICA, San Diego, CA -- In this program, top-level post-college athletes go into schools and challenge school athletes to 6 competitive events. In between the events, the talk about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. After the game, players follow-up with classroom rap sessions. Then, Leadership Teams (of students, a coach, an administrator, parent and business person) are appointed to provide more long-term support. High Five also sponsors midnight basketball leagues.

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TALKING POINTS ON ANTI-CRIME LEGISLATION

- This week, House and Senate conferees continue their meetings to reconcile both the House and Senate versions of the Crime Bill, and to craft the most comprehensive anti-crime legislation in history. Facing the Congressional conferees is a special opportunity and responsibility: To create a Crime Bill that adopts the national consensus now developing about how best to keep our neighborhoods, our homes and our families and friends safe from criminal activity.
- That consensus recognizes that old single-minded approaches aimed at suppressing crime won't work. Instead, we need a Crime Bill that strikes a balance between more law enforcement, certain and appropriately severe punishment, and strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path.
- President Clinton's anti-crime strategy offers America just such a Crime Bill. Comprised of three key components -- police, punishment, and prevention -- the President's Crime Bill is a tough, effective, and sensible approach to reducing crime in America.
- As the conferees hammer out the details of the Crime Bill, they should be sure to include the elements of the President's plan which have already gained broad, bipartisan support from elected officials, law enforcement officers, and ordinary American citizens.

Police: Protecting Our Communities

- At the heart of the President's anti-crime strategy is putting 100,000 new police officers on the streets, walking the beat, working with citizens to prevent and solve crimes. Through "community policing," we can proactively address neighborhood problems, combining increased police presence with the development of partnerships with communities to create safer neighborhoods.
- The plan to put 100,000 police officers onto America's streets represents a twenty percent increase in the current number local police officers nationwide. The nearly \$9 billion requested by the President for this program will enable the Administration to help every community in the country that needs and wants assistance to strengthen its police force to improve public safety.
- We can not expect our law enforcement officers to risk their lives on a daily basis without doing everything we can to protect them. We can increase the safety of our police by making sure that they don't get outgunned by criminals -- a goal achieved by measures that include a ban on assault weapons -- the weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs and terrorists -- and a ban on the sale of handguns to minors.

**TALKING POINTS ON THE CRIME BILL
(FOR TARGETED DISTRICTS ONLY)**

- **Ducking Responsibility.** On Thursday night, your Representative used a procedural trick to block the crime bill. Your Representative voted against putting 100,000 new police on the streets. Voted against making "3 strikes and you're out" the law of the land. Voted against tougher sentences and new prisons for violent offenders. Voted against a ban to keep dangerous assault weapons off our streets and out of the hands of criminals. Unfortunately, on Thursday night, this district's Representative in the United States Congress ducked responsibility for making our streets and communities safer.
- **Voting Flip-Flop.** This district's Representative has shown a strange pattern of voting when it comes to this crime bill. This district's Representative voted **for** this crime bill when it first came before Congress in April. But now, when the time came to make the crime bill law, to make a real difference, this Representative blinked and voted against it. That's very hard to explain to the voters of this district.
- **Caved to Special Interest Pressure.** It's hard to explain how someone could switch their vote in such a short time. The bill hadn't changed much. In fact' it's a tougher bill than it was in April. It has more money for prisons and prosecutors -- more money for the FBI and the DEA to catch criminals and keep drugs off our streets. So, what happened? The National Rifle Association threatened to spend millions to defeat Republicans and Democrats who voted to ban assault weapons. The Republican National Committee leadership mailed a confidential memo to Republicans threatening to "deny all [campaign] funding" to those who supported the assault weapons ban. One Republican called the mailing "pretty disgraceful." That's for sure. It's party politics at its worst.
- **Not About Party Politics.** One columnist said today, "In truth ..., the crime bill was sunk by raw, selfish politics." The American people deserve better. The President wants a crime bill that will protect the American people not PAC donations and political careers. Republicans didn't have to vote against this rule. Eleven Republicans had the guts to buck the special interests and the partisan pressure and do the right thing. Your Representative can do the right thing too. Let's get the job done.

CRIME BILL CALLS TO PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS

There are two votes we need help with from Progressive Democrats (particularly members of the CBC) in the House. They are (1) The Rule and (2) Final Passage:

- This is a good and balanced bill -- it has a mix of prevention, punishment, and policing.
- There is so much in this bill you have fought for:
 - \$9 billion for prevention programs, that will mean so much to young people and hard-hit areas;
 - a ban on assault weapons;
 - repeal of mandatory-minimum sentences for non-violent drug offenders.
- The Bill can bring so much hope an opportunity to your community. Almost \$1 billion in jobs for young people. \$1 billion to keep schools and community centers open at night and on weekends. Billions for drug treatment, social services, and drug court programs.
- I know you are disappointed about racial justice not being in the Bill. The President tried hard to get the votes to include it. They weren't there.
- I understand that the racial justice act is about principle, and matters of life and death. But so too is this Bill -- it contains many principles you have fought for, and it will save thousands of lives in your community. Countless young, innocent lives can be saved or changed by this Bill.
- If you join with the Republicans and the pro-gun Democrats to help defeat this bill, there will still be a Crime Bill ultimately -- but it will be one that you will like less. The conservative Democrats and Republicans will come back with a Bill that will have less of the prevention programs that you want -- and "tougher" provisions on the punishment side.
- The President needs this bill -- the Democrats in the House need this bill -- we need your support for the President and your House colleagues.

POSSIBLE REJOINDERS FOR PROGRESSIVE CALLS

If Members says: "I intend to support the Bill, but not the Rule"

- This is a Conference Report: the Rule is the Bill. If the Rule loses, the Bill goes down.
- Republicans will vote lock-step against the Rule. The NRA is mobilizing conservatives against it. We need your votes, or the Rule dies.
- If the Rule loses, and we have to go back to Conference, what will happen? Will the Bill get better from your perspective? No -- it is inevitable that the Bill moves to the "right" to get the conservative and Republican votes it needs to be passed.

If Members say: "I am against the death penalty."

- I understand and respect that position, and you cannot vote for the Bill if it violates your conscience.
- But please consider all the good things in the Bill -- the prevention programs, the assault weapon ban, the mandatory minimum sentence relief -- in some balance.
- There will be a Crime Bill this year, and it will include the death penalty. The choice is whether the Democrats will pass this bill -- or whether a Republican bill (bound to be worse from your perspective) will pass later this year.
- If you cannot vote for the Bill because of your death penalty views, than vote for the Rule. You did that in March. (All CBC Members, except Reps. Cardiss Collins and Earl Hilliard, voted for the Crime Bill Rule in March.)

If Members say: "I will get hurt in my community for this."

- You are not alone. Already, 10 African-American mayors from some of our largest cities -- Detroit, Atlanta, Cleveland, Newark, Kansas City -- have urged passage of this bill, even without racial justice being included.
- Overwhelming majorities of African-American voters support the provisions in this bill -- even the "get tough" measures found in it.

CRIME BILL ITEMS OF INTEREST TO CBC MEMBERS

1. Prevention Programs

Totalling almost \$9 billion, the amount of prevention funding won in Conference exceeds the funding for such programs in the Congressional Black Caucus's own Crime Bill.

A. Local Partnership Act (\$1.8 billion)

The LPA provides grants for thousands of America's cities and towns, with funds to be used for health and educational programs that prevent crime.

B. Youth Employment and Skills (YES) (\$900 million)

This is a job training and job provision program for young people, targeted at areas hardest hit by crime.

C. Model Intensive Prevention Grants (\$900 million)

This plan provides intensive funding to 15 cities for community services to prevent crime.

D. Community Schools Program (FACES) (\$1 billion)

These are grants to community groups to keep schools open after hours and on weekends, so kids will have a place to go and stay out of trouble.

E. Drug Courts Program (\$1.3 billion)

This program diverts non-violent drug offenders out of the criminal justice system, into drug treatment and supervised release programs.

F. National Community Economic Partnerships (\$300 million)

This program, sponsored by Sen. Kennedy, will provide community-based economic development in many hard-hit areas.

G. Hope in Youth (\$20 million)

This program, inspired by several progressive members, is of particular interest in California.

H. Other Youth Activities (\$250 million)

The Conference Report also funds a host of programs to give young people positive activities. These include Gang Prevention, Midnight Sports, Community Youth Academies, Anti-Crime Youth Councils, and Boys and Girls Clubs in hard-hit areas.

CRIME BILL CALLS TO MODERATE/CONSERVATIVE DEMOCRATS

We need help from Moderate Democrats next week on the same two votes, (1) The Rule and (2) Final Passage:

- This is a tough, balanced Crime Bill. Your constituents will be proud of you in voting for it. It includes the toughest, most sweeping measures:
 - The largest expansion of the federal death penalty in history;
 - Tough penalties like "three strikes & you're out;"
 - Almost \$9 billion to build and operate prisons;
 - 100,000 more cops, with half set aside for cities and counties of fewer than 150,000 persons.
- Do not join the Republicans in a partisan act designed to block this legislation -- by voting against the Rule. This is pure partisanship; it is an effort to embarrass the President and try to politicize this issue for the Republicans.
- If the Democratic House is unable to pass a Crime Bill, it will be bad for you, too; no one wins in this scenario, even if you think you are being "tough" by voting against the bill.
- The prevention programs in it are proven and solid -- not "social engineering" as Republicans say. They are as central to the President's crime fighting agenda as the punishment and policing initiatives.
- Keep in mind that racial justice came out. That is costing us votes among liberal members. We need your vote to make up for that.
- I understand you do not like the assault weapon ban. But this is not a vote on guns, it is a vote on a tough Crime Bill.
- You have already voted against the assault weapon ban - - you have made your position on it clear. No one will accuse you of being pro-gun control by voting for this Bill -- Do not use guns as an excuse to join with the Republicans to kill this Bill.
- Join with America's police and prosecutors in passing this Crime Bill.
- The President wants and needs this bill now; your Democratic colleagues want and need this bill now.

*(including
Republicans)*

POSSIBLE REJOINDERS FOR MODERATE/CONSERVATIVE CALLS

If Members say: "I intend to support the Bill, but not the Rule"

- This is a Conference Report: the Rule is the Bill. If the Rule loses, the Bill goes down.
- Republicans will vote lock-step against the Rule. Many in the Black Caucus are against it. We need your votes, or the Rule dies.
- If the Rule loses, and we have to go back to Conference, what will happen? Who knows when we will get a Crime Bill?

If Members say: "This bill contains too many social programs."

- This is a Republican red herring. This bill contains \$2 for police and prisons for each \$1 for prevention.
- The prevention programs are not social engineering, but instead, good common sense. Things like keeping schools open later so that kids have a place to go.
- Nor are they urban only: each of these programs will send substantial sums to rural towns and areas.
- For all the talk about "midnight basketball," it is just a \$50 million program in a \$30 billion Bill.
- Also, consider everything else in the Bill -- the death penalty, the prisons, the three strikes provision -- in some balance. A modest investment in prevention programs is a fair trade to get liberals to accept \$9 billion for prisons.

If Members say: "I will get hurt at home for this by the NRA."

- Virtually every Mayor, Governor, Police Chief, and Prosecutor supports this bill. You will not be alone.
- Overwhelming majorities of voters support the provisions in this bill -- the "get tough" measures found in it, the prevention measures, and yes, even the assault weapon ban.
- The assault weapon ban does not affect hunters or sportsmen. It expressly protects over 600 specific guns.
- If you cannot vote for the Bill because of your gun control views, than vote for the Rule. You did that in March. (All Mainstream Forum Members voted for the Crime Bill Rule in March.)

I. Domestic Violence Prevention (\$700 million)

The Conference Report includes all of the elements of the Violence Against Women Act, including many worthy domestic violence prevention programs.

J. Prison Drug Treatment (\$425 million)

Finally, the bill will provide unprecedented levels of drug treatment in federal and state prisons.

2. Policing Programs

African-Americans will, like everyone else, benefit from having 100,000 new police officers on our streets -- especially when the officers are deployed in community-oriented policing. But some of the Bill's policing programs are of special interest.

A. Police Corps/Police Scholarships (\$400 million)

The Bill provides \$400 million in scholarships for young people who are willing to become police officers (like ROTC).

B. Police Recruitment (\$24 million)

The Bill will also fund a program aimed at improving recruitment of police officers in minority areas.

C. Police Partnerships (\$30 million)

Finally, the bill will subsidize police officers who are willing to buy and live in houses in high crime areas. Almost half of these funds will go to move officers into public housing.

3. Other Legislative Measures

Other aspects of the Bill advance causes that the CBC has been identified with. They include:

A. Mandatory Minimum Safety Valve

The bill exempts low-level, non-violent drug offenders from mandatory minimum sentences of 5 and 10 years in prison.

B. Early Release for Rehabilitation

The bill provides one-year early release for federal offenders who complete a drug treatment program in prison.

C. No New Drug Mandatory Minimums

The bill is likely to be the first major Crime Bill enacted in 10 years that does not include sweeping mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses.

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BRIEF SUMMARY OF KEY PROVISIONS IN THE CRIME BILL

- More Police and Community Policing: The Bill funds 100,000 new police officers -- evenly-divided between large and small cities -- deployed in community policing programs.
- "Smart and Tough" Approach to Youth Crime and Violence: This bill focuses on youthful violence in numerous ways:
 - With proven and extensive crime prevention programs (as discussed below);
 - With boot camps for youthful offenders, as a second-chance for kids who get off-track;
 - With drug courts to get young drug users turned around before it is too late;
 - With a ban on juvenile gun possession;
 - And, for hardened young criminals, the authority to try 13-year olds as adults.
- Measures to Stiffly Punish Violent Crime: The bill includes several important steps, including:
 - The President's "three strikes and you're out" proposal for repeat violent offenders;
 - The death penalty for the most heinous of murders, including killing a federal law enforcement officer;
 - A nearly \$9 billion plan for grants to state and local governments to expand prisons to hold 90,000 violent offenders and criminal aliens.
- A Substantial Crime Prevention Agenda: The bill includes almost \$9 billion in crime prevention programs, including:
 - The President's "YES" program (Youth Employment Skills), to get job training and opportunities to kids in hard-hit, high-crime areas;
 - Ounce of prevention programs to keep schools open after hours, and to expand after-school activities like Boys and Girls clubs, that keep kids off the streets;
 - Community-based prevention programs, like the Local Partnership Act and Model Intensive Grants;
 - Innovative alternatives, like Midnight Sports and Police Partnerships with youths.
- A Ban on Assault Weapons: The Bill bans semi-automatic assault weapons -- guns of choice for drug dealers and criminals -- with no legitimate sporting purpose.
- Attack on Violence Against Women: The bill includes this plan to increase penalties and prevention efforts aimed at domestic violence and sexual assaults.
- Much, Much More: Among the many other beneficial provisions are laws to promote victims rights and prevent child abuse; initiatives to combat rural crime; to provide a mandatory minimum "safety-valve" for non-violent offenders; and to increase penalties for hate crimes.

Draft List Of Most Troublesome Floor Amendments -- House Crime Bill

#51 - Solomon - Strike Title II - Mandatory Minimums Application

Strikes Title II which limits the application of mandatory minimum sentences and provides a "safety valve" for non-violent first-time offenders. Provision would maintain current mandatory minimums.

#83 - Goodling - Strikes Youth Employment Skills "YES" subtitle

Strikes subtitle J of Title X as duplicative of programs for disadvantaged youth in Title II-C of JTPA and Youth Fair Chance Program and Title IV of JTPA. [Administration supported initiative to provide job training in conjunction with other rehabilitative programs].

#6 - Sensenbrenner - Strike Local Partnership Act

Strikes provisions of Title X Local Partnership Act. Included in this title is the Administration's Youth Employment and Skills "YES" program. #83 (Goodling) also seeks to strike the "YES" program, but specifically.

#146 - Schiff - 2 Strikes For Violent Serial Offense

Adds requirement for mandatory life imprisonment for the conviction of two violent serial felonies.

#151 - Byrne - 2 Strikes and In

Makes grants to correctional facilities contingent upon a state or multi-state compact have a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment without parole for individuals who have been previously convicted of a crime of violence at the State or Federal level.

Team to work on it w/ Foley

Rough plan w/rd met incl Hoyer appropriate amend (in federal jurisdiction) he reform

authorize add 1 \$ for Treas. law enf.

Also note that Byrne grants added back in - #100

not rule = no and to prev. prep. Floor track

Wahner's wishes Schumer #126

labor wants A, authorizes \$ for training prog in prisons (2) #73, Scott adds job prog to prevent crime to

partnership... not a problem X 1614 act

#177 - Gingrich - Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund

AMB is
responsible to do it
in conf.

Creates VCRTF [Senate version] and requires 90% of funds by used for prison construction. Fails to "fix" funding and Brady problems.

10/11/93
#94, #156, & #157 Criminal Alien Incarceration Provisions

Provisions require the Federal Government to assume the cost and responsibility for State incarcerated criminal aliens without regard to the availability of funds, and will likely have PAYGO implications.

#94 - Beilenson - Federal Government Pay Cost For Incarcerated Aliens

Requires the Federal Government to share in the costs of incarcerating undocumented aliens convicted in state courts

#156 - Condit - Federal Custody of Criminal Aliens

Requires the Attorney General to take custody of any criminal alien, within 30 days of a request by a state or local government, and to imprison the alien in a federal prison in accord with the sentence of the state court and compensate the state or local government for time served.

#157 - Condit - Reimbursement of States For Incarceration of Aliens

Mandates Federal payment for the cost of incarceration of criminal aliens at an amount equal to median rate paid by States or political subdivisions. [Prefer Berman amendment which makes payments subject to appropriations].

#84 Vucanovich - Cops Funding To Other Purposes

Allows any grants for Community Policing to be used for programs, projects, and other activities to provide for overtime costs, training, the purchase and maintenance of vehicles and equipment, technology and civilian support staff. [Would reduce actual number of police hires and dilute effectiveness of top Administration initiative].

#110 - Wilson - Modify Brady

Clarifies the waiting period and interim background check provisions of Brady law. Would exempt the application of Brady to situation where gun is left for pawn or repair and is returned to original owner. [Strong Treasury objection to special treatment for pawnbrokers].

#43 - Gordon & #14 Doolittle - Denial of Federal Benefits

Two amendments deny Federal benefits to convicted violent offenders. Doolittle denies benefits (at discretion of court) for progressively longer periods related to number of subsequent convictions (totally after 3 convictions). Gordon denies Pell grants for felons while incarcerated. [DOJ and Education strongly oppose denial of benefits, citing their value in rehabilitation].

only one in order proposed rule



*not others should be in order
pass & is to
allow
in program*

CRIME AND VIOLENCE

"Violent crime and the fear it provokes are crippling our society, limiting personal freedom and fraying the ties that bind us. The crime bill before Congress gives you a chance to do something about it -- a chance to be tough and smart."

President Clinton
State of the Union Address
January 25, 1994

IT'S TIME TO PASS A CRIME BILL. AMERICANS HAVE WAITED LONG ENOUGH.

- * Personal security has become the most pressing concern in the everyday lives of millions of Americans and their families. People have a right to feel safe, and the first duty of government is to keep them safe.
- * We are in the midst of an epidemic of violence in this country. It is time to put politics and ideology aside and start providing real answers to the real fears of real people. We need more police, more drug courts, more boot camps, and a criminal justice system that keeps violent criminals off the streets. We also need stronger families, better schools, and more work in our communities.

FIGHTING CRIME IS A CENTERPIECE OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S DOMESTIC AGENDA.

- * President Clinton made crime a centerpiece of his State of the Union Address, and challenged Congress to move quickly to pass a crime bill that will reduce and prevent crime and violence.
- * The Administration is seeking action on all fronts:
 - Put 100,000 More Police Officers on the Street in Community Policing.** Putting more police on the beat will do more than anything else to catch criminals and prevent crime from occurring in the first place. In December, the Administration awarded grants to 74 cities and towns to expand community policing.

Put Violent, Repeat Offenders Away for Life. Most violent crimes are committed by a small percentage of criminals. We need a criminal justice system that makes sure those who commit crimes serve their sentences, and says to repeat offenders: When you commit a third violent crime, you will be put away, and put away for good -- three strikes and you're out. The Senate crime bill includes more money for prisons.

Pass an Assault Weapons Ban. No other nation allows teenagers to roam the streets with assault weapons, better armed than the police. The President has challenged sportsmen and others to join in this effort to build on the Brady Bill and keep guns out of the hands of criminals. The Senate crime bill includes a ban on the manufacture and sale of assault weapons, the gun of choice for drug dealers and gangs.

Expand Drug Treatment. Drugs are a factor in an enormous percentage of crimes. Recent studies indicate that drug use is on the rise again among young people. The crime bill contains more money for drug treatment for criminal addicts and boot camps for youthful offenders, and the Administration FY95 budget will contain a large increase in funding for drug treatment and drug education.

Give Young People Something to Say Yes to. In America's toughest neighborhoods, meanest streets, and poorest rural areas, we have seen a stunning breakdown of community, family and work -- the heart and soul of civilized society. This has created a vast vacuum into which violence, drugs and gangs have moved. So, even as we say no to crime, we must give people -- especially our young people -- something to say yes to. The Administration has undertaken many initiatives to help rebuild distressed communities, strengthen families, and provide work, including: job training, welfare reform, health reform, Empowerment Zones, reform of the Community Reinvestment Act, and legislation to launch a national network of community development banks.

100,000 Police Officers/Community Policing

- ◆ We need a stronger police presence, not just to enforce the law and catch criminals but to prevent crime. We must "fortify the thin blue line" in manner designed to have truly lasting impact on crime and disorder in our nation. The Administration's Policing Initiative will help more police departments forge truly effective partnerships with their communities to control and prevent crime.

- ◆ Community policing is a strategy which combines increased police presence with the development of partnerships with communities to create safer neighborhoods. Correctly implemented community policing not only reduces crime but also improves the quality of life for residents. Therefore, the availability of new federal policing resources will be linked to need and communities' commitment to actively building public safety partnerships with the public and private agencies to address the underlying conditions related to crime and disorder.

- ◆ The Crime Bill Policing and Public Safety Initiative to put 100,000 additional officers on the streets engaged in community policing will provide assistance to states and localities to:
 - ▶ Hire, rehire, and redeploy police officers to implement community-oriented policing as part of locally-designed public safety programs;
 - ▶ Assist communities and police departments in developing integrated, proactive, and comprehensive crime prevention programs; and
 - ▶ Enhance technical assistance and training to ensure police officers and law enforcement agencies have the necessary community and problem solving oriented skills to meet the challenges they face.

- ◆ Eighty-five percent of the funds awarded under the Crime Bill Policing and Public Safety Initiative will be used to hire, rehire, and redeploy police officers; fifteen percent will be used for crime prevention programs, training and related activities. Multi-year grants to hire, rehire, and redeploy police officers may be made for up to five-years. Federal assistance will decrease over this period as localities assume a larger role. Localities will have significant flexibility in meeting the requirements of the initiative. Localities will also be able to submit joint grant applications to the Department.

- We have already made a downpayment on the promise of 100,000 new officers with the first two rounds of grant awards under the Police Hiring Supplement. This program is designed to increase the number of sworn law enforcement officers serving areas where they are needed the most, to improve the long-term ability of law enforcement to engage in community policing and ultimately to improve public safety. Under the first two rounds of this program, we have awarded \$76 million to 108 jurisdictions to help pay for the hire or rehire of 1,022 additional law enforcement officers. We will soon announce the awards under the third and final round.

Assault Weapons Ban

- ◆ The level of gun violence in our society is simply unacceptable. We must build on the Brady law to reduce gun violence, and the Administration strongly supports enactment of legislation that would prohibit the sale, manufacture and possession of semiautomatic assault weapons and large-capacity ammunition-feeding devices.
- ◆ Because of their tremendous firepower, assault weapons are the weapons of choice for drug traffickers, street gangs and paramilitary extremist groups. It is wrong to send our police officers out to fight criminals who are better armed than they are. These firearms have no legitimate sporting purpose and have turned our communities into war zones.
- ◆ For example, last year a gunman carrying two TEC-DC9s and more than 500 rounds of 9mm ammunition walked into a San Francisco law firm and opened fire. Eight people were killed and six were wounded. His TEC-DC9 was a copycat model of the Intratech TEC-DC9 already banned under California law.
- ◆ Trace studies of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) indicate that assault weapons are much more likely to be used in crime than other firearms. For example, while it has been estimated that assault weapons comprise only 1.5 to 3% of the firearms in the United States, 6.7% of firearms traced to crimes by BATF in 1992 were assault weapons, 6.8% of 1991 traces were assault weapons and 7% of 1990 traces were assault weapons.
- ◆ The assault weapons provision in the Senate Crime Bill offers a national, sensible approach to restricting these weapons by banning them by name and by certain characteristics, thereby preventing the manufacture of copycat models.
- ◆ Legitimate hunting and sporting weapons would not be banned, and we seek the support of sportsmen and others who lawfully own guns to join us in the campaign to reduce gun violence.

Three Strikes Life Imprisonment

- ◆ A significant percentage of violent crimes are committed by a small percentage of criminals. We need to enact laws around the country that will target these career predators and put them away for good. For this reason the Administration strongly supports enactment of "three strikes you're out" provisions that lock up these repeat offenders for good.
- ◆ Over thirty states are now considering three strikes provisions and they have been endorsed by governors ranging from Governor Cuomo of New York to Governor Wilson of California. A number of these provisions have been proposed in Congress and two are included in the crime bill which passed the Senate.
- ◆ We need to act quickly to pass a federal three strikes law that is both tough and smart. We should pass a law that focuses on those who commit truly violent offenses, not a law that covers offenses which every police officer would tell should not be included. What we do not need is partisanship, politics or posturing.
- ◆ The federal government also needs to assist and encourage the state efforts to pass three strikes laws. The vast majority of violent criminals are caught and punished at the state level. We need to ensure that when they are caught they are not released early.
- ◆ Federal assistance to states in this area should take two forms. By passing a tough and smart three strikes provision, the federal government can provide a model for state laws. More importantly, the federal government should provide assistance to states to create the necessary prison space so that no violent offender is ever released early for the lack of a cell.

CRIME AND VIOLENCE

"Violent crime and the fear it provokes are crippling our society, limiting personal freedom and fraying the ties that bind us. The crime bill before Congress gives you a chance to do something about it -- a chance to be tough and smart."

President Clinton
State of the Union Address
January 25, 1994

IT'S TIME TO PASS A CRIME BILL. AMERICANS HAVE WAITED LONG ENOUGH.

* Personal security has become the most pressing concern in the everyday lives of millions of Americans and their families. People have a right to feel safe, and the first duty of government is to keep them safe.

* We are in the midst of an epidemic of violence in this country. It is time to put politics and ideology aside and start providing real answers to the real fears of real people. We need more police, more drug courts, more boot camps, and a criminal justice system that keeps violent criminals off the streets. We also need stronger families, better schools, and more work in our communities.

FIGHTING CRIME IS A CENTERPIECE OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S DOMESTIC AGENDA.

* President Clinton made crime a centerpiece of his State of the Union Address, and challenged Congress to move quickly to pass a crime bill that will reduce and prevent crime and violence.

* The Administration is seeking action on all fronts:

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