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Crime - 1994 Crime Bill - Daily Talking Points [3]

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Drug Courts -- An Innovative Crime-Fighting Approach

- The crime bill provides funding for one of the most effective new crime-fighting approaches developed in recent years: Drug Courts.
- Adequately funded and administered drug treatment and coerced abstinence programs are critical to breaking the drug and violent crime cycle that has so heavily burdened our criminal justice system.
- When we can strip hard core drug users of their addiction to controlled substances we can also end their virtual addiction to crime. Substance abuse treatment must be central to our crime fighting effort.
- Drug courts have proven promising and successful in a number of jurisdictions. 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 way in the adoption of these kinds of programs.
- The Attorney General's experience in Florida -- augmented by data from approximately 20 other cities -- reveals that drug courts are successful in preventing drug offenders from becoming more dangerous criminal and can help them turn toward productive lives in society.
- The Administration supports a basic program which includes an intensive supervision of the participants by the court, drug testing and treatment, and the prompt application of a series of graduated sanctions for failure to comply with the conditions of the program. The program can be administered on a pre-trial diversion basis, as a post-conviction probation program, or in combination.
- Funding should be provided to assist state and local governments establish and run drug court and other non-incarcerative drug treatment programs.
- Drug court funding is another good reason for the Congress to pass the crime bill as soon as possible.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, April 1, 1994

CURBING HATE CRIMES: ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTS ANTI-HATE CRIME LEGISLATION

- The Administration's strong support for legislative efforts aimed at curbing hate crimes sends the clear message that discriminatory bias must never be tolerated and will be punished when innocent citizens are harmed.
- The incidence of hate crimes around the country is of growing concern to the Administration. In 1992, for example, over 8,000 hate crimes were reported to the FBI. Of those, nearly 63% were motivated by racial bias. Approximately two of every ten hate crimes were motivated by religious bias, and ethnic and sexual-orientation bias each accounted for one of every ten such crimes.
- However, these statistics paint only a partial picture. The reporting of hate crime data is voluntary, and in 1992 only a quarter of all law enforcement agencies that submit data to the FBI actually supplied information on hate crimes. The actual incidence of hate violence, therefore, is undoubtedly higher than the numbers reveal.
- The types of hate crimes reported in 1992 include intimidation, vandalism and other destruction of property, simple and aggravated assault, robbery, murder, rape, and arson.
- In response, the Administration has backed efforts to significantly enhance the penalties of those guilty of committing hate crimes.
- In addition, the Administration supports provisions in the Senate Crime Bill which expand the collection of hate crime data. In addition to race, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation, disability would be added as a hate crime bias motivation category.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, April 4, 1994

FIGHTING GANG VIOLENCE: THE ADMINISTRATION'S ANTI-GANG EFFORTS

- Curbing gang violence, crime and involvement is one of our greatest national challenges, requiring our highest commitment. Gangs rob our citizens of dignity and safety, while at the same time deprive our youth of positive alternatives for success by giving them negative role models and a false sense of hope.
- The Administration's battle to reduce gang involvement by young people and the crime gangs provoke is being waged on multiple fronts. From Administration-led initiatives to programs in the Crime Bill, the challenge of curbing gang violence is being met.
- A key Administration effort in reducing gang terror is the Administration's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. Focused on developing locally-based strategies and providing additional resources which target gang-related violent crime, the initiative combines the best efforts of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to reduce gang-related crime.
- An additional element of the Administration's anti-gang strategy is the creation of an anti-gang information network, which will allow localities to share information about interstate gang activities and the effectiveness of different law enforcement techniques designed to decrease gang crime and recruitment.
- Efforts to meet the challenge of curbing gang activity are also in the Crime Bill. Administration-supported programs include:
 - * 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.
 - * GREAT, the Gang Reduction Education and Training Project, allots \$40 million for 50 projects nationwide directed at reducing gang activity. This fund, which will go to local law enforcement and prevention organizations, as well as to ATF, represents an expansion of the GREAT program currently run by the Treasury Department.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, April 5, 1994

ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO TRAVELS THE COUNTRY IN SUPPORT OF THE CRIME BILL

- Today, Attorney General Janet Reno takes to build support for the Crime Bill. Traveling coast-to-coast on a five-day tour through several states, the Attorney General will engage in a dialogue with the American people about how swift passage of the Crime Bill will help the nation's communities reduce crime.
- The Attorney General will travel to Philadelphia, Trenton, Los Angeles, Dallas, Oklahoma City, Memphis, Nashville, and Detroit, and will participate in several town hall meetings and community policing neighborhood walks.
- The town hall meetings will include citizens from the host and surrounding cities, the host mayor, the local police chief, other local law enforcement officers, community leaders, and local branches of state and federal law enforcement, and will focus on the benefit that passing the Crime Bill will have in local jurisdictions around the nation.
- The trip will give the Attorney General an opportunity to interact with citizens who are dealing day-to-day with the problem of crime, and to hear first-hand why localities around the country need prompt, immediate and certain action on the Crime Bill.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, April 8, 1994

THE MESSAGE FROM AMERICA: FIGHT CRIME THROUGH BUILDING TRUST

- As momentum for the Crime Bill builds across the nation, Attorney General Janet Reno continues her coast-to-coast Crime Bill tour with stops in Los Angeles on Wednesday, Dallas and Oklahoma City yesterday, and Memphis and Nashville today.
- In Los Angeles, the Attorney General met with local citizens, community leaders, and a bipartisan group of elected officials which included Mayor Richard Riordan, Police Chief Willie Williams, and Senator Diane Feinstein. The day's events included a walk through the Pueblo del Rio housing project, where community policing is changing the lives of residents for the better, and a roundtable discussion on the Crime Bill before a packed audience at Cal State Los Angeles.
- Joined by local law enforcement officials in her strong support for the community policing provisions in the Crime Bill, Attorney General Reno noted that trust was the key to building effective partnerships between citizens and police, which will in turn prevent crime. "[I]t is imperative that we build that trust," she remarked. "You can't build that trust if you see somebody driving by in a patrol car and you don't know their name and you can't get their badge number."
- In Dallas, Attorney General Reno heard more grassroots support for the Crime Bill, as small business owners told her of the dividends that community policing has already paid in the city's retail district.
- 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.
- Tomorrow, the Attorney General concludes her nationwide tour with a visit to Detroit, Michigan.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Thursday, April 7, 1994

THE MESSAGE FROM AMERICA: ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO HEARS GRASSROOTS SUPPORT FOR THE CRIME BILL

- Attorney General Janet Reno today continues her nationwide tour to build support for the Crime Bill. After stops in Trenton and Los Angeles, the Attorney General today visits Dallas. And wherever she goes, the message is the same: Pass the Crime Bill now.
- Attorney General Reno began her coast-to-coast trip in Trenton, New Jersey, where she participated in a Town Hall Meeting with local citizens, community leaders, and a bipartisan group of elected officials. Along with Governor Christine Todd Whitman, Senators Bill Bradley and Frank Lautenberg, and others, Attorney General Reno talked about the difference that passing the Crime Bill will make to communities throughout New Jersey.
- During the Town Hall, the Attorney General heard from community policing officers who walk beats in New Jersey's neighborhoods. Their message was clear: Community policing, like that provided for in the Crime Bill, is about more than arresting lawbreakers; it's about building partnerships based on trust between communities and local law enforcement.
- Another message heard loud and clear in Trenton was the strong support for the Administration's "Three Strikes You're Out" repeat offender proposal as well as its crime prevention program. Both citizens and law enforcement officials alike voiced backed the President's tough "Three Strikes" bill, saying that it sends a strong message to criminals who fail to change their violent behavior. Likewise, these same individuals applauded the Administration's efforts to pass a crime bill that attempts to deal with the long-term causes of crime by implementing effective prevention programs.
- Most of all, the Town Hall Meeting underscored the message now being heard all across America: We must take real action to reduce crime in America immediately. The people of New Jersey, like people everywhere, do not want quick-fix, feel-good answers. The Crime Bill is a comprehensive, balanced approach to fighting crime on our streets today, as well as preventing criminal behavior tomorrow.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, April 11, 1994

PRESIDENT CLINTON COMES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO HEAR ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO'S REPORT ON HER CRIME BILL TRIP

- Today, the President comes to the Justice Department to welcome Attorney General Reno home after her nationwide tour and to rally support for the Crime Bill. This event kicks off a week during which public officials from all over the nation will come to Washington with the same message: Pass the Crime Bill now.
- Over two hundred uniformed officers representing more than a dozen national law enforcement organizations will join the President in welcoming Attorney General Reno home and will show their enthusiastic support for the Crime Bill. The Attorney General will talk about the people she met during her trip and will be joined on stage by individuals whose lives prove that the community policing can make a real difference in neighborhoods across the country. In addition to President Clinton, others giving brief remarks include:
 - * Eddie Cutanda, a Dorchester, Massachusetts teenager whose life has been changed by a community policing program in Boston. Three years ago Eddie was a member of street gang; today, he's participating in local performances for his community, thanks to a community policing program that works with a local youth group to get kids like Eddie off the streets. That kind of hope is what the Crime Bill can bring to communities all around the country.
 - * Earline Williams, a senior citizen whom the Attorney General met while in Trenton last week. Mrs. Williams is a volunteer at her local police mini-station. She's proud of the difference her efforts make, but her message is simple: Her community needs more police officers on the beat. The Crime Bill has an answer for her.
 - * Lt. Ernest Williams, a 14-year veteran of the Albany, Georgia, who knows firsthand the difference a community-oriented policing program like the President's can make in a neighborhood where there once was no partnership between residents and law enforcement.
- In addition, the Attorney General will be joined by 12 police officers -- all cops on the streets of Albany, Georgia as part of the city's new Community-Oriented Policing Program ("C.O.P."). These officers were hired with the funds provided by the Justice Department's first round community policing grants. They are the results of the President's "downpayment" on his promise of 100,000 new cops on the street. Passing the Crime Bill will give hundreds of communities the opportunity Albany has had.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, March 28, 1994

Byrne Grant Funding To Be Returned

- Last week, the Attorney General announced a change in the initial plan to completely eliminate the Byrne Memorial Fund formula allocations. She proposed a new plan, one which restores \$125 million in Byrne Grant Funding -- enough to pay for all existing multi-jurisdictional task forces.
- The elimination of the Byrne Formula Grants would have resulted in the elimination of the extremely effective multi-jurisdictional drug task forces which have been developed across the country. So, reallocations were made and funds were moved to provide the funding, under the Byrne Grant program, sufficient to keep their multi-jurisdictional task forces going.
- Of course, the crime bill's contribution to state and local anti-crime efforts goes much farther than the Byrne Grants.
- The total commitment of federal funds for state and local crime-fighting and crime prevention exceeds \$2.4 billion for next year -- with billions more to come over the next five years.
- The crime bill is a balanced bill, providing money for police, punishment and prevention. Restoring funding which will allow for the continued vitality of the multi-jurisdictional task forces has made the crime bill a better bill.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, April 13, 1994

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S PLAN TO PUT 100,000 ADDITIONAL COPS ON AMERICA'S STREETS

- **National Impact**
 - * Putting 100,000 police officers onto America's streets is at the heart of the President's overall anti-crime strategy. It is not just a "drop in the bucket" as some have suggested. The plan represents a twenty percent increase in the current number local police officers nationwide.
- **How 100,000 Additional Police Stacks-Up Against Current Resources**
 - * Currently, there are 504,000 sworn local police officers nationally. Adding 100,000 new cops is a 20% increase.
 - * Of the 504,000, up to 380,000 work at the street-level. 100,000 new community police officers increases the number of street-level cops by more than 25%.
- **Typical Impact On Cities**
 - * Adding 100,000 more officers to the nation's police forces will make very significant difference to individual areas. For example, a 20% increase in a city like New York with a police force of 30,000 would add 6,000 officers. That's 6,000 more officers patrolling neighborhoods, building partnerships based on trust with communities, and keeping our streets safer for law-abiding citizens.
 - * Likewise, in a mid-size city like Salt Lake City, Utah which currently employs 353 officers, the 100,000 cops program could mean over 70 new cops.
 - * And a small city like Smyrna, Georgia with a total police force of 78 could receive 15 more officers under the program.
- **Additional Cops Where They Are Needed Most**
 - * The President's plan is a competitive discretionary program, which means that jurisdictions will be able to request the amount of support for whatever number of additional police officers they actually need to effectively control crime -- some may need a 20% increase, some more, some less, depending upon their individual needs. The President's plan, therefore, is a flexible approach aimed at meeting the different crime control needs of individual jurisdictions.
- **Small States Protected**
 - * Moreover, both the House and Senate versions of the Crime Bill guarantee each state a minimum-level of community policing funding. Therefore, every state will receive at least \$20 million dollars under the House version or \$48 million under the Senate version for new police officers.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Thursday, April 14, 1994

RULE ON CRIME BILL APPROVED -- HOUSE CLEARS WAY FOR DEBATE AND VOTE ON THE PRESIDENT'S ANTI-CRIME PROGRAM

- The President's anti-crime program continues to pick-up speed as the full House today begins consideration of the Crime Bill.
- Yesterday, the House signalled its readiness to consider the most comprehensive anti-crime package in history by approving the Rule on the Crime Bill by a big margin of 244 to 176.
- Some key crime-reduction elements in the House bill include:
 - * **More Police and Community Policing:** The bill funds 50,000 new police officers, evenly-divided between large and small cities and deployed in community policing programs.
 - * **Swift and Certain Punishment for Violent Crimes:** Among the bill's tough provisions are:
 - Tough but smart "Three Strikes and You're Out" mandatory life imprisonment legislation based upon the Administration's proposal;
 - Restoration of an enforceable federal death penalty for the most heinous of federal offenses, another element of the President's comprehensive anti-crime program; and
 - A prison grant program encouraging states to take appropriate measures to ensure that the most serious violent offenders are put behind bars for a long time.
 - * **A Balanced Crime Prevention Agenda:** The Administration's prevention package includes programs such as Y.E.S. (Youth Employment Skills), Once of Prevention, after-school Community Youth Services, and Midnight Sports, which all underscore the President's dual punishment-and-prevention approach to reduce crime.

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- * The plan's flexibility provides the Attorney General with sufficient authority to waive or modify requirements which might otherwise preclude participation by cities which have been hit hard by both crime and economic dislocation and are struggling financially. For example:
 - The requirement that local jurisdictions match the federal contribution by at least 25% in matching funds may be waived; and
 - The cap on the federal level of funding for salary and benefits per officer may also be waived.
- * The key to the President's plan is flexibility: the 100,000 police program aims to deploy officers in a way that meets the specific needs of local communities.

- **Small States Protected**

- * Moreover, both the House and Senate versions of the Crime Bill guarantee each state a minimum-level of community policing funding. Therefore, every state will receive at least \$20 million dollars under the House version or \$48 million under the Senate version for new police officers.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, April 18, 1994

AMERICANS WANT THE CRIME BILL NOW!

- Across the nation, from Trenton to Los Angeles, the American people have spoken with one voice: We need the Crime Bill and we need it now!
- Americans want Congress to act swiftly and pass the President's comprehensive anti-crime package. The Administration's balanced approach to fighting crime -- police, punishment, and prevention -- has won broad praise, from everyday citizens to law enforcement officials alike. In fact, community policing -- an integral part of the Administration's overall crimefighting strategy -- has already created success stories around the country.
- Americans are looking for a long-term solution to crime, not quick-fix, feel good answers. The Crime Bill offers a plan which is both tough and smart, a plan that means quick action to reduce crime today and steps taken to avoid its occurrence in the future. The Crime Bill will provide the critical resources necessary to effectively fight crime in both the short- and long-term.
- This week, the House of Representatives continues consideration of the Crime Bill. There should be no delay in getting it passed. The President has repeatedly said that as soon as Congress passes his comprehensive anti-crime package, he will sign it immediately.
- Everyday we fail to pass the Crime Bill is an opportunity to fight crime is lost because of inaction. We *can* reduce crime and make America safer, and we can do it by ensuring that the Crime Bill becomes law. We must pass the Crime Bill.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, April 19, 1994

HELPING STATES TO LOCK UP VIOLENT CRIMINALS FAST

- The Administration is committed to helping states lock up violent offenders. The federal prison system, with over 80,000 inmates, does not release prisoners early because of overcrowding. By contrast, many states are forced to do so routinely. We want to help states expand their prison capacity so that in the future, violent criminals will not be returned to the streets because of lack of prison space.
- The Crime Bill provides funds to help states lock up violent offenders quickly and efficiently. Currently, there are 13,000 state prison beds which cannot be filled because states lack the necessary operating capital.
- The Crime Bill's prison grant program also aims to strengthen state sentencing schemes. In order to participate in the grant program, states should adopt improved criminal justice policies to protect the public from violent criminals, including "truth in sentencing" reforms. But the conditions of state participation must be reasonable, realistic and practical.
- "Truth in sentencing" provisions contained in both the Chapman and Hughes Amendments will encourage states to move in the right direction -- restoring the credibility of our criminal sentencing system by ensuring that violent inmates serve their time behind bars.
- We must be tough on crime, but we must also be smart. The McCollum Amendment, which requires states to adopt burdensome sentencing policies in order to be eligible for prison grant funds, looks tough but really isn't. The requirements are so costly to meet that few states, if any, would actually participate in the grant program, meaning more violent offenders on our streets.
- The President's anti-crime plan represents a comprehensive, balanced approach to reducing crime in both the short-term and long-term. While the Administration supports increased assistance to states for the incarceration of criminals, spending on prisons alone is not enough. The Administration supports the availability of adequate funding for all components of the President's anti-crime program -- police, punishment and prevention.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, April 20, 1994

ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTS POLICE CORPS

- The President has repeatedly indicated that he wants crime legislation which is both tough and smart. That is why the Administration supports the McCurdy Amendment to the House Crime Bill, a proposal which ensures that we are smart about the way we fight crime by establishing a Police Corps program and funding Law Enforcement Scholarships.
- We must do all we can to ensure that our law enforcement officials are equipped not only with the weaponry and technology they need, but also with the education and skills necessary to maximize their ability to fight crime. By providing educational funds for individuals committed to joining police departments after graduation, we can develop well-educated police officers who have focused for years on training for that job.
- The McCurdy Amendment creates a Law Enforcement Scholarships matching grant program for current law enforcement personnel and young people interested in a career in law enforcement.
- Law Enforcement Scholarships would provide educational opportunities for in-service officers seeking to improve their skills and abilities, as well as law enforcement related summer and part-time employment for high school students.
- The McCurdy Amendment also establishes a Police Corps program through which state and local law enforcement agencies can recruit young people to serve with local police while simultaneously earning financial aid for a college education.
- The police corps, frequently analogized to the ROTC, would require program participants to participate in police training activities during the summer months of their college education.
- The police corps will develop a new group of well-educated police officers annually available for recruitment into police departments around the country.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, April 21, 1994

HOUSE POISED TO PASS CRIME BILL

- After making significant progress in their deliberations over the Crime Bill, the House is now on the verge of passing comprehensive anti-crime legislation by week's end.
- The House's work over the last two weeks answers the call echoed around the nation that the nation desperately needs the Crime Bill and wants its passage now.
- The package emerging from the House includes several key crimefighting elements, such as:
 - * A substantial start towards putting an additional 100,000 police officers on our streets, engaged in community policing in both large cities and rural areas;
 - * A "Three Strikes You're Out" measure aimed at repeat offenders;
 - * A program which helps states put and keep violent criminals behind bars for a long time by giving them grants to create much needed prison space and by encouraging them to adopt "truth in sentencing" reforms;
 - * Restoration of an enforceable federal death penalty for the most heinous of offenses, including the killing of federal law enforcement officers;
 - * A balanced crime prevention agenda which gives young people something to say "yes" to, such as after school community youth services, Boys and Girls clubs, Midnight Sports, and other programs which enhance the educational opportunities of youth, such as Police Corps and Law Enforcement Scholarships; and
 - * Measures aimed at stopping violence against women.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Friday, April 22, 1994

HOUSE PASSES THE CRIME BILL

- By an overwhelming margin of 285 to 141, the House of Representatives yesterday voted to pass the Crime Bill. The win is a big victory for Americans around the country who value smart action over mere tough talk on the issue of crime in America.
- The House's action brings the nation a step closer towards fully realizing the President's comprehensive anti-crime program -- a plan which has won broad praise from ordinary citizens to law enforcement officials alike.
- The next task is for House and Senate conferees to hammer out a joint Crime Bill which includes the best measures from both the House and Senate bills and reflects the Administration's balanced approach to fighting crime -- police, punishment, and prevention.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation
Tuesday, April 26, 1994

Answering the Call

- Yesterday, the New York Times called on the Administration to "stake a legitimate claim to leadership" in the development of the final version of Congress' crime bill. The fact is, the President, the Attorney General, and other cabinet members have staked out dozens of tough positions during debate on the crime bill and have already had a substantial impact on the bill.
- The President and his Administration vigorously supported a balanced approach to the bill, working hard to make sure that the money spent was not just on police, not just on punishment, and not just on prevention, but on all three. Without the President's insistence on this balanced approach, a skewed crime bill might have resulted.
- The President and his Administration helped reign in and fight back the ill-conceived "regional prisons" notion which would have wasted time and money in the effort to lock up violent criminals. With strong support from the Administration, prison funding in the House bill is to be made available in grants to the states for use in the ways most appropriate in each individual circumstance. And the Administration will continue to work to encourage conferees to adopt this approach.
- The President and his Administration designed a more focused "three-strikes-and-you're out" provision, which the Administration will continue to encourage the conferees to adopt. And the Administration has supported a "safety valve" provision, taking low level, non-violent, first time offenders out of the rubric of mandatory minimum sentencing, returning those matters to sentencing under the sentencing guidelines.
- The President and his Administration also continue to fight for the passage of an assault weapons ban, whether adopted as part of the crime bill or adopted as a separate piece of legislation. And, despite the urgings of the Times, the Administration will continue to support "truth in sentencing" provisions so that criminals recognize that there are consequences for their actions.
- The President and the Administration will continue to play the most important role possible in this debate -- keeping it balanced, on course, and moving forward. While even we may not like certain provisions adopted by the Congress, the basic structure of the crime bill is sound. The Congress should not delay in drafting and passing a conference report.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, May 3, 1994

PRESIDENT CLINTON SEEKS SUPPORT OF HUNTERS IN BATTLE TO FIGHT CRIME

- In an open letter to hunters reprinted in Roll Call yesterday, President Clinton sought to enlist the help of hunters to control crime by taking weapons designed for military combat off of the streets and out of the hands of violent criminals. Semiautomatic assault weapons are the "weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists," wrote the President, "[a]nd every year they kill children and police officers, mothers and fathers."
- As the President has repeatedly noted, the battle to ban semiautomatic assault weapons is not about gun control; it's about crime control.
- "I know the difference between a firearm used for hunting and target shooting and a weapon designed to kill people," the President wrote, who himself has been a hunter since he was 12 years old. Semiautomatic assault weapons "have no place on a deer hunt, in a duck blind, or on a target range -- and they certainly don't belong on our streets, in our neighborhoods or on our schoolyards."
- The Administration-supported legislative ban specifically safeguards hunters' rights. Over 650 hunting and recreational guns are explicitly exempted from the ban.
- Moreover, not all semiautomatic firearms are covered by the ban; only semiautomatic assault weapons -- weapons designed for military combat on the battlefields of war -- are prohibited. Hunters, wrote President Clinton, "know the difference between a hunting rifle and weapon that was designed for the battlefield," and he urged hunters to make that difference known to members of Congress.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, May 5, 1994

HOUSE TO VOTE ON CRITICAL ANTI-CRIME LEGISLATION

- Today, the House votes on a crucial piece of crime control legislation: a ban on semiautomatic assault weapons. A victory in the House today will mean safer streets and saved lives.
- Every year, semiautomatic assault weapons kill children, spouses, parents, and police officers. They are the weapons of choice for violent criminals. Designed for battlefield combat, assault weapons have no place on our streets, in our neighborhoods or on our schoolyards.
- Among the ban's staunchest supporters are law enforcement officials -- men and women who put their lives on the line day in and day out to keep our communities safe. Opponents of the ban cannot expect these brave individuals to risk their lives in the fight against crime, yet deny them the help they desperately need.
- The legislative ban supported by the Administration is carefully crafted to specifically safeguard hunter's rights. In fact, over 650 hunting and recreational guns -- including 60 semiautomatic rifles -- are explicitly exempted from the ban.
- Moreover, not all semiautomatic firearms are covered by the ban: only semiautomatic assault weapons -- weapons designed for military combat -- are prohibited.
- House members must decide today whether to stand with the overwhelming majority of their constituents and the law enforcement community, or to vote the way the gun lobby wants them to vote. Those who choose to stand with the American people and with law enforcement will be making their voices heard in the fight against crime.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, May 13, 1994

WHY REGIONAL PRISONS WON'T WORK

- Around the country, states are being forced to prematurely release violent criminals from prison due to lack of space. The Clinton Administration is committed to halting this trend by making it easier for states to get violent offenders off the streets quickly and efficiently and to keep such criminals locked up for a long time. The Administration-backed state prison grant program would accomplish these objectives by providing assistance directly to states, enabling them to expand their correctional capacity.
- By contrast, the Regional Prisons proposal in the Senate Crime Bill sounds tough on crime but really isn't. For example:
 - * Building and opening ten, federally-administered regional prisons would take a long time. As a result, states would not be able to benefit from additional prison space for at least several years. That means more violent criminals on our streets for a longer period of time. On the other hand, the prison grant program supported by the Administration would facilitate states' ability to bring new prison space on-line quickly, because it allows both for the new construction and the expansion of existing correctional facilities.
 - * Moreover, many states have existing prison space that can be immediately activated, but are unable to fill this space because of sparse resources. Over 15,000 state prison beds cannot be filled because states lack the necessary operating capital. The Regional Prisons proposal does nothing to help those states fill their existing space, while the Administration-supported state prison grant program will assist such states in meeting their operational needs.
 - * In addition, the Regional Prisons proposal is inefficient. It involves a massive and uncontrolled expenditure of precious crime-fighting dollars. The state prison grant program, however, will lock up more violent criminals much more quickly and at a much lower cost. Allowing states to administer their own correctional systems for their own prisoners is far more efficient than deeply involving the federal government in a cumbersome, costly, time-consuming and marginally beneficial venture of building and running big regional prisons.
 - * Finally, operating a federally-administered regional prisons system is fraught with difficulties. Differences in state correctional policies and the difficulties and risks of transporting inmates to and from centralized federal facilities make the administration and safe operation of a regional prison system extraordinarily difficult and expensive.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Monday, May 16, 1994

**PRESIDENT CLINTON MOVES CLOSER TO PUTTING
100,000 POLICE OFFICERS ON AMERICA'S STREETS**

- President Clinton last week made another important downpayment on his promise to deliver 100,000 police officers to the communities of America. Last Thursday, the President announced the final round of Police Hiring Supplement grants to communities around the country. The 142 law enforcement grants, distributed through a competitive program, comprise about \$74 million and will put 1,001 cops on our streets.
- Overall, 250 police departments, sheriffs' departments, and other law enforcement agencies received police hiring grants totalling \$150 million. These grants are being used to hire over 2,000 police officers and will enable the American people to become partners with law enforcement to help end the crime and violent plaguing their neighborhoods.
- Across the nation, city and county officials, law enforcement officers, and ordinary citizens recognize the need to hire more police officers. As a result, the response to the Police Hiring Supplement program has been overwhelming. Unfortunately, this grant program has only enough money to fund fewer than one in ten of the nearly 3,000 applicants who applied.
- Passing the Crime Bill can change that, because with nearly \$9 billion appropriated for hiring new police officers, every community that needs police can receive help.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, May 18, 1994

ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO VISITS AFTERSCHOOL PREVENTION PROGRAM

- Highlighting the difference afterschool prevention programs can make in the lives of young Americans, Attorney General Reno yesterday visited a local Boys and Girls Club at the Montana Terrace Public Housing Project.
- Joined by young program participants, the Attorney General heard first-hand how the Boys and Girls Club serves the more than 500 kids who live in the housing development, as well as young people living in adjacent public housing and low-income communities of Northeast Washington, D.C.
- Montana Terrace is one of the District's most high-risk areas due to the violent and drug-related crime plaguing the neighborhood. The Boys and Girls Club at Montana Terrace offers young people an afterschool haven by providing them with a variety of programs from tutoring to dance to classes about abstinence from drugs and sex. Through these and other activities, young people are given an alternative to life on the streets -- an alternative which can save lives.
- Providing much-needed funds for programs like Montana Terrace's Boys and Girls Club is part of the President's sensible and balanced approach to fighting crime. It's a strategy that recognizes that in addition to enhanced law enforcement and certain, swift punishment, real crime reduction requires strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path.
- The Crime Bill now in Conference offers the Congress an opportunity to help steer young people away from crime and drugs and give them instead, as the President often says, "something to say 'yes' to." Congress must not lose this chance.

**Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Friday, May 20, 1994**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO VISITS
NEW YORK CITY BEACON SCHOOL**

- Emphasizing the difference that school-based community centers can make in young lives, Attorney General Reno joined scores of young people last night and kicked-off the "Peace Makers Tournament." A four-week, 3-on-3 midnight basketball tournament, the program is designed to prevent youth violence by teaching sportsmanship, teamwork and conflict resolution.
- The "Peace Makers Tournament" will involve approximately 120 young people between ages of 12 and 18 and will be held at P.S. 194, a Beacon school facility located in an area plagued with violent and drug-related crime. By offering evening activities to young people in the community, P.S. 194 is a safe haven for many kids, helping them to stay off the streets and out of trouble.
- The Attorney General's visit underscores the challenge now facing Congressional conferees: To pass a Crime Bill which fights crime and saves lives by funding prevention programs for at-risk youth. Such programs are an essential ingredient of the President's balanced anti-crime legislation.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation May 26, 1994

ADMINISTRATION-SUPPORTED IMMIGRATION PROVISIONS IN THE CRIME BILL: AN AGENDA FOR CHANGE

- The Administration has a fair and forceful immigration policy. Our plan will regain control of our borders, revitalize and modernize the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and encourage legal immigrants to turn in their green cards in exchange for United States Citizenship. To accomplish these goals, the Administration needs to improve the tools we use to enforce our immigration laws.
- The Crime Bill contains a number of key provisions to strengthen immigration enforcement measures and to provide the funding necessary to meet the unique law enforcement challenges illegal immigration poses.
- It is essential that we have adequate resources to enforce our immigration laws. The Immigration and Naturalization Service has watched its resources dwindle and its equipment grow old at the same time that the number of illegal immigrants crossing our borders has multiplied. The House and Senate Crime bills will help change that. Both bills authorize appropriations to improve border controls, reform our asylum system, expeditiously deporting criminal aliens and to effectively track and identify criminal aliens.
- The Crime Bill also contains a number of provisions that assist states particularly burdened by the problem of illegal immigration and strengthen our immigration laws to assure that violators will be punished and will be promptly deported from the U.S. These include the following:
 - * Funding to reimburse states for the costs of incarcerating criminal aliens;
 - * Increases in the criminal penalties for visa and passport document fraud and for alien smuggling;
 - * Streamlined deportation for aliens who commit serious crimes; and
 - * Self-Petitioning for Abused Alien Spouses, which allows certain battered alien spouses to obtain legal immigration status in the U.S.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Thursday, May 19, 1994

**ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO TRAVELS TO PHILADELPHIA
IN SUPPORT OF THE CRIME BILL**

- Today, Attorney General Janet Reno travels to Philadelphia to promote swift Conference action on the Crime Bill. She will visit a southwest Philadelphia neighborhood and a police mini-station to talk with residents and law enforcement officials about local community policing efforts.
- The Philadelphia Police Department is implementing a community policing strategy with 14 additional officers, hired with a \$1 million grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. Police mini-stations in various neighborhoods and business districts around the southwest area have already enjoyed community support. Such mini-stations -- now staffed with more officers -- will continue to help local citizens protect and revitalize their neighborhoods.
- Passage of the Crime Bill will help other jurisdictions around the country build partnerships between law enforcement and local citizens by providing the nation with 100,000 new police officers. These officers will help departments establish effective community policing programs -- an indispensable part of the President's balanced anti-crime strategy.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, May 17, 1994

ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO TESTIFIES BEFORE THE SENATE LABOR COMMITTEE ON CRIME BILL PREVENTION PROGRAMS

- Today, Attorney Janet Reno will testify before members of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee on one of the key elements in the President's anti-crime strategy: workable and effective prevention programs.
- The Attorney General's testimony draws upon her own experience of the last few months, when she travelled across the country and spoke with private citizens, public officials, and members of law enforcement. She has witnessed the development of a broad consensus on the problem of crime -- one which says that any successful anti-crime effort requires a sensible balance between law enforcement, certain and appropriately severe punishment, and strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path.
- The key components of the President's anti-crime program are police, punishment, and prevention. Yet, as Attorney General Reno points out in her testimony, there is a special opportunity -- and responsibility -- facing Congressional Conferees: to create a Crime Bill that will help steer young people away from crime and drugs and give them instead, as the President often says, "something to say 'yes' to."
- Through this Crime Bill, Congress can break the cycle of violence by developing crime prevention programs for young Americans that work -- programs that increase youth employment, recreational and educational opportunities.
- Some of the key prevention programs in the Crime Bill that the Attorney General will highlight include:
 - * The President's Youth Employment Skills program "Y.E.S.", contained in the House Crime Bill, which will provide young people with job training and work opportunities in hard-hit, high-crime areas;
 - * The Ounce of Prevention Council and programs, in both the House and Senate bills, which, with some adjustment, can provide the vehicle for effectively coordinating and integrating the delivery of the federal government's new youth development and youth oriented crime prevention initiatives;

- * The Police Partnerships for Children program, in both versions of the Crime Bill, which will encourage police officers to become involved with children and family services agencies to divert at risk children;
- * Drug Court programs which will support intensive court supervision of drug dependent defendants to provide the carrot-and-stick approach that can help them beat their addiction; and
- * The Gang Resistance Education and Training program ("G.R.E.A.T."), already a proven success, which will help kids fight the allure of gang membership.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, April 12, 1994

FUNDING FOR THE BYRNE GRANT REINSTATED

- Based on input from mayors and governors around the country, the Administration has reassessed its previous position eliminating the Byrne Memorial Fund formula grants from the President's budget, and has restored \$125 million in formula grant allocations to states.
- The restoration of \$125 million in Byrne Grant funding will be sufficient to cover the federal share of all existing multi-jurisdictional drug task forces. However, states will still have the flexibility to spend the restored funding on priority matters of their own choosing.
- The restored Byrne Grant Funds represent a small part of the Administration's overall state and local anti-crime effort. Over \$2.4 billion is slated for crime fighting and crime prevention at the state and local levels for next year.
- The Administration will pay for the restored Byrne Grant funding by making the following reallocations: a \$50 million reduction in the proposed increase in discretionary Byrne Grant funding; a \$25 million reduction in the proposed \$69 million increase in funding for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; and \$50 million from the Crime Bill.
- The Administration will also seek a Crime Bill provision to allow future funding of the Byrne Grant to be provided by the Crime Bill Trust Fund.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, June 1, 1994

FIGHTING DRUGS THROUGH THE CRIME BILL

- The President's anti-crime strategy recognizes that there is a clear link between drug use and criminal activity. A major component of the Administration's anti-crime effort, therefore, is devoted to breaking the chain between drugs and crime.
- Various Administration-supported proposals in the Crime Bill offer drug-dependent criminal offenders an opportunity to beat their addiction. They include:
 - * Drug Court programs to intensively supervise and treat drug offenders and get them turned around before they commit more serious crimes, including the integrated administration of drug testing, substance abuse treatment, potential prosecution or incarceration for non-compliance with program requirements, and related programmatic and aftercare services;
 - * Drug testing of Federal offenders on post-conviction release;
 - * Expanded drug treatment for Federal prisoners and increased support for state correctional drug treatment programs; and
 - * Proven and extensive drug prevention and crime prevention programs, such as those administered through the Ounce of Prevention Council, that target young people and give them something to say "yes" to.
- In addition, the Crime Bill also includes Administration-backed provisions which assist law enforcement in their efforts at fighting drug traffic. Among these proposals are:
 - * Additional funding to hire more Drug Enforcement Administration agents to curb drug trafficking on our streets;
 - * \$250 million targeted for rural law enforcement grants to reduce drug trafficking in rural areas; and
 - * Increased penalties for drug trafficking in or near schools and public housing.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Thursday, June 23, 1994

ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTS CRIME BILL PROVISIONS PROTECTING WOMEN FROM VIOLENCE

- Curbing sexual and domestic violence is a fundamental part of President Clinton's balanced strategy to reduce crime in America. That's why the Administration strongly supports the Violence Against Women Act, a critical component of the Crime Bill that will protect women from crimes of violence and help the victims of such crimes.
- The Violence Against Women Act will increase the federal resources available to combat violence against women, including improved law enforcement training in the area of violent crimes against women, dedicated police and prosecution units targeting sexual and domestic violence, aggressive enforcement and prosecution in domestic violence cases, support for anti-stalking programs, support for a national domestic violence hotline, and improved victim assistance services.
- The Violence Against Women Act will also fund state grant programs which educate students about rape and violence prevention on college campuses.
- Other protections of the Violence Against Women Act include more effective federal laws relating to sexual violence, such as higher penalties for perpetrators, strengthening restitution for victims, and extension of the "rape shield law" which protects victims from abusive inquiries concerning their private sexual conduct.
- Such victim-protection measures are both fair and smart. They're fair because they address those situations in which victims are without redress due to inadequate state remedies, and allow victims improved access to federal courts. They're smart because they do 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.

SUMMER OF SAFETY PROJECT SUMMARY ST. LOUIS SAFETY SERVICE CORPS PARTNERSHIP

The St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department is the recipient of a \$137,000 grant from the Corporation for National Services "Summer of Safety" program. The Police Department, along with the Prevention Partnership, the St. Louis Housing Authority, Pillar Place, Friedens Haus, the Fox Park Neighborhood Association, Grace Hill Neighborhood Services, the American Youth Foundation, and the University of Missouri - St. Louis, has formed the **St. Louis Safety Service Corps Partnership** to focus on reducing violence and the fear of violence in four neighborhoods and four senior citizen public housing developments.

The Safety Service Corps will engage 40 stipended participants between the ages of 18 and 25 and up to 150 neighborhood residents in activities designed to have a direct impact on the reduction of violence in St. Louis.

The project will seek to strengthen four neighborhoods -- Fox Park, the Gate District, Hyde Park and Old North St. Louis -- through service activities focusing on community-oriented problem solving, victims' assistance, block captain recruitment and the creation of safe corridors. In each of these communities, SOS participants will:

- build closures and install lighting in "gangways" often used for selling and distributing drugs between row houses;
- recruit 5 new block captains each week, for eight weeks, to add to the ranks of existing block captains;
- organize bi-weekly training sessions for block captains to teach new crime prevention skills;
- implement a "target hardening" program to prevent burglary in the homes of seniors and other community residents;
- contact victims of crime within 24 - 48 hours to provide support and needed resources; and
- work with neighborhood residents to identify and reclaim at least one public neighborhood space which is currently used as a "haven" by neighborhood gangs.

The second project will focus on creating a sense of safety within four senior citizen public housing developments -- the Simon Building and the Webbe Building in the Peabody Darst Webbe neighborhood; the Blumeyer Senior Building in the Covenant Blu neighborhood; and a fourth site in the Mark Twain neighborhood. In these communities, SOS participants will:

- work with police officers and senior citizens who are residents to identify public safety problems within the housing development and to identify solutions that residents can be a part of;
- escort senior citizens to stores and doctors appointments and to cultural events and recreational events they typically are afraid to take advantage of;
- establish liaison with representatives from social services and the St. Louis Housing Authority to maintain escort services after the completion of SOS;
- design and conduct two workshops on "personal and property safety" with the residents in each of the four buildings; and
- help residents establish "direct deposit" of personal checks, to eliminate theft of social security checks and other routine deposits.

The St. Louis Safety Service Corps will be overseen by an advisory board made up of representatives from participating agencies chaired by Major Gregory Hawkins of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. Bill Charlton, the project's Director, will be responsible for the daily operation of the project.

For further information, contact:

Bill Charlton, SOS Project Director
St. Louis Safety Service Corps
(314) 772-9002
(314) 772-7545 (fax)

Kathleen Bechrer
Department of Human Services
St. Louis County
(314) 652-7762

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Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, August 19, 1994

THEY SHOULD KNOW BETTER: THE TRUTH BEHIND THE NRA LIES

More than 70 percent of Americans support the crime bill's ban on assault weapons, and the National Rifle Association is desperate. In a last-minute bid for crime bill gridlock, the NRA is buying up television time and turning to Hollywood for a rewrite of the truth.

NRA abandoned the facts long ago. Here's a guide to the "false witness" the NRA is bearing against the American people:

NRA Lie 1: *The crime bill spends vast amounts on social programs -- more than on police.*

The Facts: Wrong. More than \$7 of out every \$10 in the bill (72%) is for police, federal and state law enforcement, prisons and detention facilities.

Almost half of the remaining spending (13 percent of the total) is devoted to combatting violence against women, drug courts, and crime prevention programs originally sponsored by Republican Senators Danforth, Stevens and Domenici.

That means that 85% of the bill's funding is for law enforcement, prisons, drug courts, violence against women, and bipartisan prevention programs.

NRA Lie 2: *"The Crime Bill will put two social workers on the street for every cop."*

The Facts: Wrong again. As the July 16 Los Angeles Times said about this attack: "An examination of the facts shows that [this] calculation rests on a pyramid of questionable or flatly improbable assumptions." The crime bill earmarks no funds for the hiring of social workers -- none at all. On the other hand, the bill does provide almost \$9 billion to put 100,000 cops on the street and increase community policing programs across America.

So where does the 2-1 figure come from? A Heritage Foundation study ludicrously estimates the crime bill will hire 40,000 social workers by applying every dollar for crime prevention to the hiring of a social worker -- even though such a use of these funds would be illegal under most of the bill's prevention programs. The prevention programs do not mandate the hiring of any social workers -- not one.

NRA Lie 4: *The crime bill's prevention programs provide recreation and other soft activities for would be criminals.*

The Facts: Than why are they supported by every major law enforcement organization, including the Fraternal Order of Police and the National District Attorneys Association -- as well as Republicans like former President Bush and Senators Dole and Hatch?

Crime prevention programs have had bipartisan support for years -- until politics took hold:

The Republican conference proposal includes substantial sums for "sporting and recreational equipment...nutrition guidance...supervised sports programs...workforce preparation...entrepreneurship...tutorial and mentoring programs...parenting classes...nonviolent dispute resolution...sports mentoring...Boys and Girls Clubs in Public Housing."

President Bush gave a Point of Light to a midnight basketball league in 1990.
Senators Hatch and Dole support the Violence Against Women Act.
Senators Danforth and Domenici support the Community Schools program.
Senators Dole and Hatch support the anti-gang grants.
Senator Gramm and Former Drug Czar Bennett supports Drug Treatment in Prisons.
Senators Stevens and Domenici support the Olympic Youth program.
Senators Dole and Hatch support the Boys and Girls club grants.
Senator Durenburger supports the Family Unity provisions.

Prevention programs are vital to fighting crime, but they don't magically turn into pork just because another party also supports them.

NRA Lie 5: *The crime bill would release 10,000 drug dealers from prison.*

The Facts: Wrong again. Rather than set violent offenders free because of prison overcrowding, the crime bill would allow an emergency "safety valve" for a few minor drug offenders -- but only if they are not violent, their offense was low-level, and they had not used a weapon. Most would need to have served four or more years already. If applied retroactively, only 100 to 400 prisoners -- not 10,000 -- could be eligible for release.

Just ask tough-on-crime Republican representatives Henry Hyde and Bill McCollum -- they support including the safety valve retroactively.

NRA Lie 7: *The NRA ads are motivated by anything other than their desperation over the ban on assault weapons.*

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Instead, they fund sex crime and domestic violence prosecutors, special agents to track down gang gun-running, judges, police officers, DNA labs, improved criminal history records, domestic violence shelters, evening hours for schools and teachers, and dozens of other crime prevention functions having nothing to do with social work or social workers.

The NRA and the Heritage Foundation also say that just 20,000 cops will be hired under this bill -- an error debunked below.

NRA Lie 3: *The crime bill will only hire 20,000 new cops.*

The Facts: More Heritage Foundation fiction. The Crime Bill earmarks almost \$9 billion to put 100,000 new police on the streets -- an increase of almost 20 percent over the nation's current 504,000 local law enforcement officers. Indeed, last year's supplemental police hiring program awarded \$150 million in grants to hire more than 2000 new officers. At that rate 20,000 officers could be hired for only \$1.5 billion.

Last year, entry-level police officers in cities over 10,000 earned an average of less than 24,000 a year¹ (and two-thirds of the jurisdictions eligible for police money have fewer than 10,000 people.) Even if you add fringe benefits and allow for inflation, the average salary and benefits per police officer is no higher than \$42,000.

Maybe the Heritage Foundation was thinking of the Republicans' alternative proposal offered by Republican Senator Hatch -- it would have cut \$1.6 billion from police hiring money.

Take it from the *Los Angeles Times*: "Critics appear to underestimate the number of police the bill could produce."

¹ Survey conducted by the International City/County Management Association.

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Crime prevention programs have had bipartisan support for years -- until politics took hold:

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NRA Lie 7: *The NRA ads are motivated by anything other than their desperation over the ban on assault weapons.*

**Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Thursday, June 30, 1994**

**DOING LESS TO CATCH CRIMINALS, DOING LESS TO PREVENT CRIME:
THE REPUBLICAN CRIME CONFERENCE REPORT ALTERNATIVE**

- Retreating from the challenge of providing a balanced Crime Bill for the American people, Republican Senators today unveiled an anti-crime alternative that falls far short of President Clinton's proposal for a comprehensive anti-crime plan.
- Compared to the Administration-backed Chairmen's Mark, the Republican Alternative does *less* to catch criminals, *less* to restore hope to young lives and prevent crime, *less* to make our streets, parks, schools and homes safer. Among its most glaring shortcomings:
 - * **LESS** money for community policing. That means fewer officers catching criminals, fewer patrolling neighborhoods, fewer building partnerships based on trust with communities, and fewer keeping our streets safe;
 - * **LESS** funding for a combined Byrne Grant/Alien Incarceration program -- almost \$1 billion less than the Chairmen's Mark allocates for these two programs. States like California, Texas and Florida will especially feel a dramatic cut in funding;
 - * **NO** ban on police-killing assault weapons -- a ban which law enforcement officials across the nation overwhelmingly support and which previously passed both the House and Senate. Ironically, even though Republican Senators previously voted for a Crime Bill which contained a ban on semiautomatic assault weapons, they now present a Republican alternative which drops this provision;
 - * **LESS** allocated for crime prevention -- much less. The Republican Alternative gives up on young people, giving them no hope and few opportunities to turn away from the criminal path;
 - * **LESS** to combat violence against women, a critical crime problem in our country;
 - * **LESS** to keep our borders secure and prevent illegal immigration;
 - * **NO** provision for Drug Courts, which help turn drug-addicted offenders around before they commit more serious crimes;
 - * **NO** funding for the bipartisan-sponsored Police Corps, providing college scholarships to young people who want to serve as police officers; and
 - * **NO** Local Partnership Act, which was overwhelmingly backed by the House of Representatives just a few days ago.
- No matter how you look at it, the Republican Alternative does less to reduce crime in America. It fails to meet the challenge of bold, comprehensive action to fight crime.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, May 24, 1994

PROTECTING AGAINST GENDER-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE

- Protecting women against gender-motivated violence and improving restitution to victims of such crime is part of the President's overall, anti-crime strategy. Conferees from both Houses have the opportunity to ensure that the Crime Bill includes a strong Violence Against Women provision, one which creates a federal cause of action for violence perpetrated against an individual because of their gender.
- Under the Administration-backed Violence Against Women proposal currently in the Senate bill, 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 proposal would also create new federal offenses which protect victims of gender-motivated violence, such as fleeing across state lines in violation of a stay away or protection order.
- Such victim-protection measures are both fair and smart. They're fair because they address those situations in which victims are without redress due to inadequate state remedies, and allow victims improved access to federal courts. They're smart because they do 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.
- Also supported by the Administration are Violence Against Women grant programs aimed at reducing and preventing violence against women through state grants expanding and strengthening victim services and programs, funds to train law enforcement officers to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, and resources to prevent rape and violence on college campuses through education.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Thursday, May 12, 1994

ENHANCING LAW ENFORCEMENT'S ABILITY TO FIGHT CRIME

- The Clinton Administration's Crime Bill is a blueprint for the effective reduction of crime in both the short- and long-term. Part and parcel to the bill are specific authorization requests that will give law enforcement the resources it needs to successfully implement the President's comprehensive anti-crime plan. Crime Bill authorizations supported by the Administration include:
 - * Nearly \$9 billion to put an additional 100,000 local police officers on the nation's street -- a twenty percent increase in the current number of local cops nationwide;
 - * Funds to hire more prosecutors for gang prosecutions, as well as the support staff and resources new prosecutors require;
 - * Additional funding to hire more Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents to curb drug trafficking on our streets;
 - * Additional funds for law enforcement components and functions of the Treasury Department to help meet their increased law enforcement responsibilities;
 - * \$250 million targeted for rural law enforcement grants to reduce drug trafficking in rural areas;
 - * A comprehensive grant program with increased funding for criminal justice and law enforcement assistance in sexual and domestic violence cases;
 - * \$300 million in increased judiciary funding for effective crime bill implementation;
 - * Grants administered through the Gangs and Juveniles programs to local prosecutors who are trying to deal with the serious and growing problem of juvenile violence;
 - * \$3 billion for state grants to construct prisons, build boot camps, and otherwise expand their capacity to ensure that criminals do their time;
 - * Authority necessary to increase the number of Border Patrol agents by 6,000 over the next five years; and
 - * Grants for computerized automation and other technological improvements in law enforcement, as well as for an expansion of federal training programs for state and local law enforcement officers.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, June 8, 1994

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF CRIME

- Just as the President's comprehensive anti-crime program ensures the punishment of those who commit crimes, it also remembers crime's victims. Strong, pro-victim measures are one of the hallmarks of the Administration-supported Crime Bill.
- The Crime Bill encourages states to empower victims by giving them the right to be heard in sentencing; a victim of a violent crime or sexual abuse would have as much voice as an offender in sentencing and parole hearings.
- Victims would gain greatly expanded restitution rights and increased access to victim counseling and other assistance. Under Administration-supported provisions of the Senate Crime Bill, restitution for victims of sexual assault includes the cost of lost income, child care, transportation and other expenses related to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault offenses.
- In addition, victims of gender-motivated violent crimes may seek redress under a new Federal civil rights remedy in the Senate Crime Bill. Victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse are protected under several other Administration-supported Senate Crime Bill provisions, including:
 - * Creation of a Federal remedy for interstate domestic abuse and a requirement that protective orders issued in one state are recognized and enforced in other states;
 - * Extension of the Victim Shield Law and other prohibitions against the introduction of evidence to show provocation or invitation by a victim of sexual assault; and
 - * Coverage of the cost of HIV testing and counseling for victims of serious sexual assault.

**Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Monday, June 20, 1994**

**HELPING AMERICANS LIVE "FREE FROM FEAR":
PRESIDENT CLINTON AND ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO
URGE CONFEREES TO PASS THE CRIME BILL**

- In an effort to help the American people reclaim their communities from the plague of violence, drugs and crime, the President and the Attorney General both spent time this weekend urging Congressional conferees to take swift action and pass President Clinton's comprehensive Crime Bill. Passage of the President's anti-crime legislation is crucial to an effective offensive against crime.
- On Saturday, President Clinton travelled to Chicago where he visited a gang-ridden housing project and underscored the need for Congressional action on the Crime Bill. The President's balanced anti-crime plan will give children the chance to grow up safe and free from fear, give young people "something to say 'yes' to," and give families the "chance to live in safety."
- Reiterating the President's message, the Attorney General on Sunday spoke to a morning congregation at the Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Arlington, Virginia. As Attorney General Reno noted, the focus of the President's Crime Bill is helping communities, both large and small, all across the nation.
- Safer streets, safer schools, real partnerships between local citizens and local law enforcement, job opportunities for young, tough punishment for career offenders -- these can be the reality for America's communities. But only with Congress' help. Congressional conferees must act swiftly and Congress must pass President Clinton's Crime Bill if America is truly to be "free from fear."

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.