

EDUCATION

" America has to be serious about education. We have to be serious about education if we want to have a strong economy, if we want these young people to live up to fullest of their God-given abilities. If we really believe that our obligation to our children is to give them the ability to make the most of their own lives in this world we are living in, that means education, education, education. We must face it, embrace it, and be glad about it."

President Clinton
O'Farrell Community School
San Diego, California
September 22, 1995

Overview

The Clinton Administration has made an unprecedented commitment to reforming the federal role in education and training and to expanding the opportunities available to American children and adults to improve their skills and maximize their potential.

The President has compiled an impressive record of achievement in education and has a series of new reform proposals as well. While bringing the deficit down by historic amounts and proposing a balanced budget within seven years, President Clinton has still made investing in education a top priority.

Accomplishments

1. HEAD START. President Clinton has made expanding and improving pre-schooling the starting point for helping families give their children a good start on the right course. He appointed the Head Start Advisory Commission to examine the program and to recommend ways to improve its operation. These recommendations formed the basis for the 1994 reauthorization of Head Start with major quality improvements. In his first two budgets, the President increased Head Start spending by \$760 million.

2. GOALS 2000: EDUCATE AMERICA ACT. President Clinton helped to create Goals 2000 -- signed into law in 1994 -- which supports state, community and school efforts to raise standards of achievement and discipline and encourage students to work hard to meet them. Goals 2000 affirms the President's belief in the critical role of education in building America's future and the federal government's central role as a partner in that effort. More than 40 states have already chosen to participate in Goals 2000 and have developed their own strategic plans -- based on raising academic and occupational standards, improving teaching and expanding the use of technology -- for educational reform.

3. IMPROVING AMERICA'S SCHOOLS ACT. Signed by President Clinton in October of 1994, this law focuses on improvements in teaching in more than 50,000 schools and has a direct impact on five million children in high poverty areas. By increasing school flexibility to use federal aid and supporting effective innovations, this law is a significant step in helping all students meet high academic standards.

4. SCHOOL TO WORK. Signed by President Clinton in May of 1994, this act broadens educational, career and economic opportunities for students not immediately bound for four-year colleges through local partnerships among businesses, schools, community organizations and state and local governments. By equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue work or post-secondary training, this law helps ensure that America will be capable of performing and prospering in a competitive global economy.

5. NATIONAL SERVICE. President Clinton created the Americorps program -- signed into law in September of 1993 -- to enable young people to earn money for education by serving their communities. This year alone, 25,000 volunteers are working in schools, hospitals, neighborhoods and parks.

6. DIRECT LENDING. President Clinton's Direct Lending program -- signed in August of 1993 as part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act -- eliminates billions of dollars in unnecessary payments to lenders and third parties and makes student loans cheaper and more efficient for students, schools and taxpayers. Over 1,300 schools, representing 40% of the total number of loans, are participating in this program, which cuts bureaucracy and saves taxpayers and students billions of dollars, while allowing more borrowers flexible repayment arrangements -- including pay-as-you-earn plans through Individual Education Accounts. President Clinton remains committed to preserving the right of every college to choose Direct Lending.

Agenda

President Clinton remains committed to education reform and has vowed to continue helping Americans invest in their children's and their nation's future. In his State of the Union Address, the President made the following proposals:

Technological Literacy For The 21st Century. President Clinton challenged the nation to work together in a major new national effort to help every student become technologically literate for the 21st century. Modern technology is key to preparing our public schools for the 21st century.

Higher Education Standards For Students And Teachers. In order to ensure America's competitive strength, President Clinton wants to see public schools driven by demanding high standards for students and teachers.

Public School Choice. President Clinton believes that information, competition, and choice among public schools should be the rule, not the exception. Any parent who is dissatisfied with either their own child's or the school's performance should have the opportunity to choose a public school that will do better.

Charter Schools. To ensure that every parent has the opportunity to choose a school for their child, the President called on all 50 states to enact charter school laws within 12 months. Twenty states currently have laws providing for the creation of charter schools -- public schools, created and managed by parents, teachers and administrators. Charter schools have greater flexibility but they are held accountable for their results through a performance-based contract with a local school board, state, or other public institution.

Parent Involvement. President Clinton believes strongly that parents are and should continue to be their children's first and most important teacher. The President asked parents to read

with their children, see that their homework is done, see that they take the tough courses, know their children's teachers, talk to their children directly about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, and talk to them about the values they want them to have. The President has also challenged businesses, schools, and religious organizations to help parents find the time for all of this by being family-friendly for learning.

Between 1992 and 1995, the dollar amount of aid to students -- including loans, grants and work-study -- increased from \$22.5 billion to \$34.4 billion. In his State of the Union Address, President Clinton vowed to continue the trend of increasing college enrollments by calling for the enactment of three key initiatives to increase access and the affordability of a college education.

Merit Scholarships. The President called for the creation of the largest-ever merit-based scholarship program, rewarding the top 5% of high school graduates in every school with \$1,000 grants toward the cost of college. If this proposal is enacted, this year, 128,000 graduating high school seniors will receive a scholarship to help finance their college education.

Expansion Of Work Study. The President proposed a dramatic expansion of the College Work Study program, from 700,000 students to over one million over the next five years. This increase will significantly expand a program that reaffirms the American ethic, rewarding hard work and helping ensure that all who want a higher education are able to afford it.

Tuition Tax Deduction. The President has called for a deduction of up to \$10,000 for the cost of tuition and training. Families could deduct up to \$10,000 in expenditures for postsecondary education. 17.1 million students and 14.3 million families stand to benefit from this proposal for tax relief to working families.

EDUCATION (filename: issued)
GAYNOR MCCOWN, 456-5575
3/10/96

**PRESIDENT CLINTON AND CONGRESSIONAL DEMOCRATS
STAND UP FOR KEY INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

March 14, 1996

President Clinton's balanced budget makes the necessary cuts to balance the budget while protecting key education and training programs that are working to improve educational access, achievement, affordability, and safety from drugs and alcohol.

President Clinton has shown that we can balance the budget while still protecting key investments in education. Why do the Republicans continue to insist on these unnecessary cuts that would deny millions of children needed services?

Republicans Are Complaining About Restoring \$8 Billion That Would Go To Repair Some Of The Most Egregious Cuts In Their Original Plan:

23 Million Children Denied Safer, More Drug Free Schools. Under the original House-passed Republican plan, 23 million children would have been Safe and Drug Free Schools services next year. *The House continues to refuse to restore any funding for this program.*

- The Drug Free Schools program, signed into law by President Reagan, helps millions of school children by providing a block grant to states on a per capita basis -- similar to the standard Republican Block Grant.
- Republicans who complain that the money is not always well spent cannot have it both ways. Since the program is run as a block grant, the Department of Education allows local communities to use their funds as they see fit to prevent drug and alcohol abuse among children. *The 1994 bipartisan reauthorization of the new Safe and Drug Free Schools program provides for increased accountability by requiring states to establish goals and objectives connected to reducing violence or alcohol use. States also have to establish goals, and measure progress towards those goals.*
- The fact that one school district in Talbot County, Virginia used their prevention funds in a certain manner, does not mean that 23 million school children nationwide should be denied services next year. The Talbot County example was *before* the new accountability standards.
- *IGA Report* February 8, 1996: A review of 9 school districts -- to get a general sampling of the nation's programs -- found that, "all 9 districts had programs that clearly discourage drug use." Schools were found to provide positive teacher training and foster community involvement.

1.1 Million Children Denied Basic And Advanced Skills Training. Under the original House-passed Republican plan, 1.1 million children would be denied Title I assistance to help them achieve basic and advanced skills in 1996, alone. *The House is still resisting any additional funding for this program.*

- Title I funds go to help provide teaching assistants, specialists, technology, textbooks, and other resources to help "at-risk" and disadvantaged children learn how to read, write, and learn math skills.

8 Million Children Denied Improved Education. Under the original House-passed Republican plan, 8 million children would be denied improved education because of elimination of Goals 2000. *The House is still resisting any additional funding for this program.*

- Goals 2000 is helping America's schools raise their education standards.* Goals 2000 supports meaningful state and community school improvement efforts, based on raising academic and occupational standards, improving teaching and expanding the use of technology. More than 45 states have already chosen to participate in Goals 2000 and with the leadership of local communities, parents, teachers, and school administrators have developed their own strategic plans for educational reform. Preliminary data from Kentucky, Maryland, and Colorado shows that Goals 2000 is raising achievement and accelerating school improvements.

Students Denied The Choice of Student Loans. Under the House-passed Republican plan, 1,350 colleges with 2.5 million students would be cut off Direct Student Lending program. And 90% of all students would be denied the opportunity to choose their student loan program. *The current revised Republican plan would place a 40 percent cap on Direct Student Loans.*

- The Direct Student Loan Program allows students to repay their student loans as a percentage of their income over time -- lowering default rates, helping students transition into the workforce, and ensuring that the cost of education is not a barrier to success.
- A 40% cap on Direct Student Loans means:*
 - * As many as 500 Schools -- and 800,000 students -- would have to drop out of the program -- including most of the third year schools and many of the second year schools.
 - * No more schools would be allowed to join the program.
- Claims that Direct Lending is a new program for beauty schools are outrageous.*
 - * Proprietary schools in the third year of direct lending represent only 11 percent of direct loan volume.
 - * In order for a school to be eligible for Direct Lending, they have to already be eligible for the standard student loan program! All schools -- including proprietary schools -- must meet at least the same minimum standards to participate in either the standard student loan program Federal Family Education Loan Program [FFEL] or Direct Lending. In other words, every school they are mocking was already eligible for the student loans programs under Presidents Bush and Reagan.
 - * Schools must now meet even stricter standards to apply for and to be selected for Direct Lending. They can't have high default rates; they must be financially capable; and there can't be and be any adverse actions pending against the school.

50,000 Young People Denied Opportunities To Serve Their Community While Earning Money For College. Under the original House-passed Republican plan, 50,000 young people will be denied the opportunity to serve their communities while earning money toward their college education through the AmeriCorps national service program. *The House is now offering only \$15 million for the program -- enough to close it down.*

- . Claims that the government spends \$26,000 per National Service participant are ludicrous. GAO found that the actual cost per participant is \$17,629 -- most of which goes directly to the Members, including a \$5,000 educational opportunity award. The remainder of funding per participant comes directly from local entities joined in partnerships to help foster community service.
- . Yesterday, Senator Charles Grassley (R-IA) joined National Service Chief Harris Wofford in agreeing upon a plan to improve AmeriCorp and fund the program at \$383 million for 1996. Enactment of this agreement will fully establish AmeriCorps as non-partisan institution in which all Americans can take pride. *The House should drop their insistence that the program be eliminated and sign on to this agreement.*
- . *Look what Republican governors say about the program:*
 - * "I have only one word of caution (to the Republican Congress), AmeriCorps. This is the baby that should not be thrown out with the bathwater. AmeriCorps Member will help us build a better tomorrow ... one of the most intelligent uses of taxpayer dollars ever." [Gov. Weld, 10/12/95]
 - * "The National Service program has been a great success in the State of New Hampshire and I anticipate it will continue to be in the future....These motivated individuals make AmeriCorps work for New Hampshire and I am pleased to be a partner in this process." [Gov. Merrill, 7/10/95]

Nearly 4 Million Young People Denied Summer Jobs. The original House-passed Republican plan would have eliminated the Summer Jobs programs. *The House continues to resist any additional funding for this program that helps disadvantaged youths.*

- . Summer Jobs works by providing jobs skills and real-work experiences for disadvantaged and low-income children -- teaching them responsibility and work ethic, and preparing them for the workforce.
- . Summer Jobs youth work in non-profit and community based projects, such as: Red Cross, hospitals, community centers, libraries, hospice organizations, and mental health centers. The services they provide is vital to the community -- the work ethic and responsibility they learn is invaluable.
- . The Department of Labor estimates that two-thirds of the Summer Jobs participants would not have otherwise found summer work.
- . The Department of Labor estimates that without the Summer Jobs program the African American teenage unemployment would jump to close to 50 percent.

. **180,000 Children Denied Head Start.** Under the original House-passed Republican plan, 180,000 fewer children would receive Head Start in 2002. The President's plan would provide new Head Start services for more than 50,000 more children by 2002. *The current House plan would not allow for any new Head Start opportunities.*

. Since 1965, Head Start has helped more than 13 million disadvantaged children.

. Head Start was reauthorized virtually unanimously in 1994.

. According to the Bipartisan Advisory Committee on Head Start Quality and Expansion, "The evidence is clear that Head Start produces immediate gains for children and families."

. Two of the largest Head Start studies, of the Philadelphia Public Schools and the Montgomery Public Schools, contain evidence of consistent lasting positive effects for Head Start graduates. [Hebbeler, 1985; Copple, et al., 1987.]

. **Funding For Environmental Education Eliminated.** The House proposal would eliminate funding for the GLOBE program, a public/private partnership for science that has already signed up more than 2,000 U.S. schools to help teach children the importance of environmental protections and public health. To date, the federal/local cost share has been about 50/50 -- and as the program grows it is expected that the local share will expand significantly. *The House continues to insist that this program must be eliminated.*

. *Look what Congressional Republicans have said about Globe in the past:*

- * "As a former educator, I believe this (GLOBE) is an excellent vehicle for exploring the earth's environmental system works." [Congressman Curt Weldon, R-PA]
- * "The Globe science and education partnership is an innovative way to stimulate science education through technology." [Senator Bob Smith, R-NH]
- * "GLOBE is an excellent program, allowing our students the opportunity to participate in hands-on science education projects to share their observations with other students and scientists around the world." [Senator Judd Gregg, R-NH]

Crime Prevention Council Eliminated. The Ounce Of Prevention Council which assists communities with developing strategies to prevent crime. *The House plan would eliminate the Council.*

- . In just over a year, the Council has published a very popular catalog of crime prevention programs, is reviewing applications for grants that will be awarded soon, and has responded to thousands of requests for information on federal crime prevention resources and promising prevention strategies.
- . The Senate Has Repeatedly Supported Funding for the Council. While the House has repeatedly tried to eliminate the program, *the Senate has repeatedly supported funding for the Council*, both in its FY96 appropriations bill (\$2 million) and in Title 1 of the pending 10th CR (\$1.5 million in non-contingent funding).
- . The Catalog that some claim is the only progress the Council has made, is actually a valuable resource that has been extremely popular with local law enforcement, local government, and non-profit organizations. The Crime Bill charged the Council with developing a catalog of Federal crime prevention program, and it has produced this catalog, "Preventing Crime and Promoting Responsibility: 50 Programs That Help Their Youth". This catalogue provides information on how to develop a comprehensive community strategy to prevent youth crime and violence. ***WHAT THEY DON'T TELL YOU: The Council would be awarding grants to local communities right now, were it not for the government shutdowns.***

CHILD CARE (filename: ccare.tp)
GAYNOR MCCOWN, 456-5575
3/13/95

CHILD CARE

Quote...

"The hardest and the most important part of welfare reform is moving people from welfare to work. You have to educate and train people. You've got to make sure that their kids aren't punished once they go to work by losing their health care or their child care."

President Clinton
National Association of Counties, March 7, 1995

Quality child care is critical to the millions of working families struggling to make ends meet. The Administration has been committed to expanding child care assistance through Head Start and other successful child care programs – and to improving the quality of child care.

Accomplishment BACKGROUND

The need for assistance with child care is large and growing. Proposals to block grant and cap child care assistance threaten to eliminate the child care which enables poor families to work.

Almost one million children of working poor families receive assistance through the At-Risk and Child Care and Development Block Grant Programs. If child care funds are capped, these hard working American families could be cut off and put at-risk for welfare dependency.

Low-income families who pay for child care spend more than a quarter of their income on these expenses, and millions more are in need of child care assistance. In California, 225,000 children are on a waiting list for child care.

More than 400,000 children each month receive child care assistance through AFDC and Transitional Child Care programs. Assistance for these children and their families is in jeopardy if child care funds are capped. Studies indicate that when child care arrangements break down, parents are more likely to drop out of school or leave work and go back on welfare.

The quality of child care is far from adequate. Poor quality care threatens children's development. The recent study conducted by economists and child development experts confirms that quality care is related to child outcomes. The vast majority of care in the country was found to be mediocre, with 40% of infant care considered poor.

THE CLINTON RECORD

Accomplishments

- . Increased Funding for Child Care Every budget submitted by President Clinton has included increases in child care. The FY96 budget increases funding \$100 million.
- . A Central Element of Welfare Reform The Work and Responsibility Act introduced last year continued the guarantee for families moving toward self sufficiency and expanded child care assistance for working families – part of the effort to "make work pay." The President's plan included a \$1.5 billion increase in child care funding over five years for working poor families "at-risk" of welfare dependency.
- . Improving Coordination The Administration has worked to make programs more consistent and coordinated, proposing new regulations to reduce red tape, improve quality, give states more flexibility, and streamline child care operations into a single Child Care Bureau.
- . Technical Assistance The Clinton Administration revamped and strengthened technical assistance to the states, territories and tribes to ensure they have access to the best available information on quality issues, particularly health and safety. In addition, the Administration has launched a National Child Care Information Center for policymakers and the general public.
- . Head Start President Clinton's FY96 budget proposes an additional \$400 million increase for this program which provides comprehensive services for disadvantaged children, ages three to five, and their families. With bipartisan support, the President appointed the Head Start Advisory Commission to examine and recommend improvements to the program after 25 years of service.

UPDATE

Under the Republican proposal, more than \$2 billion dollars in child care assistance would be cut over five years and more than 300,000 children would lose assistance in the year 2000.



Administration for Children & Families

Facsimile from:

CHILD CARE BUREAU
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
HHH Building, Room 320 F
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201
Phone: 202.690.6782
Fax 202.690.5600

Date: 12/6

This transmission consists of this cover page plus 1 pages.

To: Gaylor McCown	From: Joan Lombardi
Phone:	Phone:
Fax: 456-7028	Fax: 202.690.5600

Message:

Talking points are still fine -
my only suggestion is to revise
the update. Attached are suggestions
from talking points we did.

On the other issue - Could you help
put together a "one hour" at the table
for February 29th in the afternoon with
25 Child Care Resource & Referral people - they
talk to millions of parents each day. It would
be great to do with Carol in Roosevelt Room - let
me know ASAP Thanks

RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE BILL ENDANGERS CHILD CARE SERVICES

o The conference agreement significantly increases the need for child care while reducing resources for child care services and jeopardizing the safety of children in care.

o According to an HHS preliminary analysis, the conference agreement provides \$14 billion less for child care services over the next seven years than is required for states to meet the bill's work requirements.

o At the same time, the conference agreement cuts by \$1.2 billion over five years the child care funds provided under the Senate bill to help states meet the work requirements. Further, the conference agreement would set a seven year cap on funds authorized under the Senate bill for child care services for low income working families.

o Despite reduced child care funds, the conference agreement eliminates the flexibility that the Senate bill would provide to states to help parents with young children meet the work requirements. It would eliminate the state option to exempt parents with children under one from working, and would not allow parents with children under six to work part-time.

o The conference agreement endangers the safety and well-being of children in care by eliminating the child health and safety protections contained in current law and maintained in the Senate bill. These vital protections were developed with broad bipartisan support and approved by President Bush in 1990. They are not federal standards, but basic protections set by the states to provide for the prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunization), building and physical premises safety, and minimum health and safety training for child care providers.

o The conference agreement significantly reduces the funds available to the states to improve the quality of child care. Despite numerous reports raising concerns about the quality and safety of child care services, the conference report undermines current state efforts to improve child care services by drastically reducing the funds available for this purpose.

o Further, the conference agreement eliminates the assurance that parents will be provided with basic information about the health and safety of child care facilities, or about complaint procedures.

o The bill reduces the amount of funds available to more than 500 federally recognized Tribes which currently provide critical child care services to children as their parents struggle to move towards economic self-sufficiency.

(11/17/95 - 5 PM)

CHILD CARE (filename: ccare.tp)
GAYNOR MCCOWN, 456-5575
3/11/96

CHILD CARE

"We agree on time limits, tough work requirements, and the toughest possible child support enforcement. But I believe we must also provide child care so that mothers who are required to go back to work can do so without worrying about what is happening to their children."

President Clinton
State of the Union Address
January 23, 1996

Quality child care is critical to the millions of working families struggling to make ends meet. The Clinton Administration has been committed to expanding child care assistance through Head Start and other successful child care programs - and to improving the quality of child care.

THE CLINTON RECORD

Accomplishments

Increased Funding for Child Care Every budget submitted by President Clinton has included increases in child care. The FY96 budget increases funding \$100 million.

A Central Element of Welfare Reform The Work and Responsibility Act introduced last year continued the guarantee for families moving toward self sufficiency and expanded child care assistance for working families - part of the effort to "make work pay." The President's plan included a \$1.5 billion increase in child care funding over five years for working poor families "at-risk" of welfare dependency.

Improving Coordination The Administration has worked to make programs more consistent and coordinated, proposing new regulations to reduce red tape, improve quality, give states more flexibility, and streamline child care operations into a single Child Care Bureau.

Technical Assistance The Clinton Administration revamped and strengthened technical assistance to the states, territories and tribes to ensure they have access to the best available information on quality issues, particularly health and safety. In addition, the Administration has launched a National Child Care Information Center for policymakers and the general public.

Head Start President Clinton's FY96 budget proposes an additional \$400 million increase for this program which provides comprehensive services for disadvantaged

I know
it's
difficult
but is
there any
other
quote -
this is
welfare
reform -
and it's better
not to tie
the two
so
explicitly

not
to
spend

Oxley

In 1994

Thousands
expansion
prior to
FY96.

The Appl isn't
the highlight
Then issue
A report that
formed the basis
of bipartisan
reauthorization

children, ages three to five, and their families. With bipartisan support, the President appointed the Head Start Advisory Commission to examine and recommend improvements to the program after 25 years of service.

BACKGROUND

The need for assistance with child care is large and growing. Proposals to block grant and cap child care assistance threaten to eliminate the child care which enables poor families to work.

- Almost one million children of working poor families receive assistance through the At-Risk and Child Care and Development Block Grant Programs. If child care funds are capped, these hard working American families could be cut off and put at-risk for welfare dependency.
- Low-income families who pay for child care spend more than a quarter of their income on these expenses, and millions more are in need of child care assistance. In California, 225,000 children are on a waiting list for child care.
- More than 400,000 children each month receive child care assistance through AFDC and Transitional Child Care programs. Assistance for these children and their families is in jeopardy if child care funds are capped. Studies indicate that when child care arrangements break down, parents are more likely to drop out of school or leave work and go back on welfare.

The quality of child care is far from adequate. Poor quality care threatens children's development. The recent study conducted by economists and child development experts confirms that quality care is related to child outcomes. The vast majority of care in the country was found to be mediocre, with 40% of infant care considered poor.

Agenda

Welfare Reform — para on how this is a central pt of
contention in welfare reform debate

Expand/Improve Head Start

Improve Quality

HEALTH CARE REFORM

" . . . [I]f our working families are going to succeed in the new economy, they must be able to buy health insurance policies that they do not lose when they change jobs or when someone in their family gets sick. . . . We have to do more to make health care available to every American. And Congress should start by passing the bipartisan bill sponsored by Senator Kennedy and Senator Kassebaum that would require insurance companies to stop dropping people when they switch jobs, and stop denying coverage for preexisting conditions."

President Clinton
State of the Union Address
January 23, 1996

Overview. Since taking office, the President has fought hard for health care reform. While we could not reach agreement on legislation in 1994, there is little disagreement that the problems remain.

- Nearly forty million Americans have no health insurance.
- 84 percent of the uninsured in 1993 were in working families, and more than 55 percent of the uninsured lived in families headed by full-time workers.
- As many as 4 million people have been affected by "job lock" -- the inability to change jobs for fear of losing insurance -- and every year 18 million people change insurance when someone in their family changes jobs.

Agenda. The President remains firmly committed to guaranteeing health security to all Americans. The President believes we should take a step-by-step approach.

That is why he included reforms in his balanced budget proposal that would:

- **Reform the insurance market** -- so that people don't lose health insurance when they lose their job or change jobs or a family member falls ill, and so that small businesses can afford to buy health insurance for their workers.
- **Help workers who lose their jobs keep health insurance** by making them eligible for premium subsidies to pay for private insurance coverage for up to six months. This proposal would provide coverage for 3.8 million Americans each year.
- **Level the playing field for the self-employed** by gradually increasing the self-employed tax deduction to 50 percent.

- **Crack down on fraud and abuse** by strengthening the fraud and abuse laws so that we can better prosecute health care fraud in all government programs and private plans, guaranteeing funding to investigate and prosecute fraud in Medicare and Medicaid, increasing penalties so that wrongdoers are punished severely, and better coordinating state and federal anti-fraud activities.

That is why the President has urged Congress to pass the Kassebaum-Kennedy health reform bill immediately. It is reasonable, bipartisan and has the support of business and labor. It will stop insurance companies from denying coverage because someone has a so-called "pre-existing condition." It will ensure that if you lose a job or change jobs you will not lose your health insurance. The General Accounting Office estimates that will help as many as 25 million American workers.

Contact: Jennifer Klein or Chris Jennings
Last Update: March 11, 1996

EDUCATION (filename: educatn.tp)
GAYNOR MCCOWN, 456-5575
3/10/95

EDUCATION

"Let's give our children a future. Let us take away their guns and give them books. Let us overcome their despair and replace it with hope. Let us, by our example, teach them to obey the law, respect our neighbors, and cherish our values. Let us weave these sturdy threads into a new American community that can once more stand strong against the forces of despair and evil because everyone has a chance to walk into a better tomorrow."

President Clinton
State of the Union Address

January 25, 1994

The Clinton Administration has made an unprecedented commitment to reforming the federal role in education and training and to expanding the opportunities available to American children and adults to improve their skills and maximize their potential.

THE CLINTON RECORD: ~~A LIFELONG LEARNING AGENDA~~

The President announced at the beginning of his Presidency his commitment to a Lifelong Learning Agenda – from expansion and improvement of early childhood education to reform of adult education and training programs. Much of that agenda has been enacted over the past two years:

1. HEAD START

- . In his first two budgets, the President increased Head Start spending by \$760 million, and now proposes an additional \$400 million in FY1996 for this program which provides comprehensive services for disadvantaged children, ages three to five, and their families.
- . The President appointed the Head Start Advisory Commission to examine the program after 25 years of operation and to recommend ways to improve its operation. The Commission's recommendation formed the basis of the 1994 reauthorization, passed with bipartisan support.

2. GOALS 2000 Goals 2000 affirms the President's belief in the critical role of education in building America's future and the federal government's central role as a partner in that effort.

Legislation passed in 1994 to support meaningful state and community school improvement efforts, based on raising academic and occupational standards, improving teaching and expanding the use of technology.

¹⁹⁹⁷
In his ~~1996~~ budget proposal, he calls for a \$347 million increase in funding for states and communities to proceed with their education reform agenda. More than 40 states have already chosen to participate in Goals 2000 and with the leadership of local communities, parents, teachers and school administrators have developed their own strategic plans for educational reform.

3. NATIONAL SERVICE With passage of the National Service legislation, Americorps has 20,000 volunteers worked in schools, hospitals, neighborhoods and parks. Reiterating his belief that National Service can change the way government works by enabling participants to further their education while helping to change communities, President Clinton is asking for \$812.5 million in 1996 to expand the program to 47,000 participants.

4. DIRECT LENDING With the passage of the Student Loan Reform Act, 104 schools and over 300,000 students are already participating in the program. This year more than 1,400 schools – representing 40% of the total number of loans and the maximum allowed under this year's authorization – have committed to enrolling. This program cuts bureaucracy and saves taxpayers and students billions of dollars, while allowing more borrowers flexible repayment arrangements -- including pay-as-you-earn plans through Individual Education Accounts.

5. ESEA Designed primarily to help disadvantaged children, this law focuses on improvements in teaching in more than 50,000 schools and has a direct impact on five million children in high poverty areas. By increasing school flexibility to use federal aid and supporting effective innovations, this law is a significant step in helping ALL students meet high academic standards.

6. SCHOOL TO WORK Broadens educational, career and economic opportunities for students not immediately bound for four-year colleges through local partnerships among businesses, schools, community organizations and state and local governments. By equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue work or post-secondary training, this law helps ensure that America will be capable of performing and prospering in a competitive global economy.

REPUBLICAN PROPOSALS

The Republicans are threatening the federal commitment to education in a number of ways that the Clinton Administration will oppose:

The Department of Education. Republicans calls for abolishing the Department of Education. The President believes strongly in the Department and the need for a strong federal role in education.

Goals 2000. Republicans are calling for a 40% cut in a program that encourages high

standards for all students.

Direct Lending. Republicans want to eliminate the very program that cuts bureaucracy and saves taxpayers and students billions.

Student Loans. Republican proposals to pay for the Contract includes \$9.6 billion from eliminating the in-school interest subsidy, which relieves students with subsidized loans from responsibility for interest on their loans while in school and for six months following graduation.

National Service. Republicans want to dismantle Americorps, the President's signature service program, which expands opportunity for young people willing to give something back to their country.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools. Republicans want to gut a program – present in 94% of our schools – that teaches students the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse and alternatives to violence.

~~MIDDLE CLASS BILL OF RIGHTS~~

The Clinton administration's current proposal:

Supports New Tax Deduction for Education and Training: The President proposes making tuition for college, community college, technical school, graduate school and job-training fully deductible up to \$10,000. The deduction will be available to families earning up to \$100,000, and phased out at \$120,000.

Opposes Wasteful Tax Cuts that Do Not Primarily Benefit Working Families: While some Republicans have expressed interest in considering the President's education deduction proposal, over 54% of the costs of the House Republican Contract go to families making over \$100,000 with their Capital Gains tax cut.

**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

**ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
370 L'ENFANT PROMENADE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20447
December 7, 1995**

TO: *Gaynor McCown*

Telephone:

Fax: *456 - 7028*

Number of Pages (excluding cover):

FROM:

**Wendy Jacobson
Special Assistant to the
Deputy Assistant Secretary**

Telephone: (202) 260-1853

Fax: (202) 205-3848

MESSAGE:

As discussed

**REPUBLICAN RECONCILIATION CHILD SAFETY AND ADOPTION
TALKING POINTS**

- o Real welfare reform is not about cutting help for abused and neglected children, or making it harder for children to find a loving adoptive home. While Republicans claim that they have maintained the current foster care and adoption assistance programs, the conference bill slashes resources sharply and undermines the ability of states to protect children's safety, prevent child abuse and neglect, and recruit safe and loving foster and adoptive homes.
- o The conference bill block grants and cuts funding for child protection programs by \$4.6 billion over seven years, or 23 percent. At a time of major changes in the safety net for families, it is doubly dangerous to cut back resources that protect the safety of abused and neglected children. In 1993, nearly 3 million children were reported as alleged victims of child abuse and neglect, and reports involving over 1 million children were substantiated. Placements in foster care have also been rising rapidly; between 1983 and 1993, the number of children in foster care increased by about two-thirds.
- o The conference bill makes it harder for states to promote adoption and to find loving and safe foster and adoptive homes for children who cannot be safe in their own homes. Currently, states are guaranteed partial reimbursement of their expenses for recruiting and training foster and adoptive families. The conference bill ends this guarantee and caps and cuts state funding, making it harder for states to find foster homes and adoptive homes for hard-to-place children with special needs.
- o The conference bill would further weaken state child welfare systems that are already strained to the limit, by cutting funding that now supports critical community-based services and local caseworkers who work directly with children. Courts in 22 states have found that state child welfare systems are unable to provide children with basic protection.
- o The bill weakens state accountability for protecting children's safety, by hampering data collection and enforcement of critical child protections. For example, the bill repeals the requirement that children be in licensed foster homes, potentially putting children's safety at risk.
- o The conference bill could jeopardize the ability of states to protect the safety of children in case of unpredictable increases in abuse and neglect, such as those produced by the crack epidemic. While the conference bill would guarantee resources to the States to pay for the foster care placements themselves, it fails to ensure the resources required to make the placement happen: recruitment and training of qualified staff to work with the children, families, and the courts; case managers to plan services for children's safety; training and recruitment and training of foster parents.
- o The conference bill repeals targeted funding to prevent abuse and neglect by strengthening families and supporting communities. The bill repeals critically-needed funding for community-based approaches to prevent child abuse and neglect, strengthen families, and prevent unnecessary placements in foster care.
- o The conference bill repeals funding to help teenagers in foster care gain the skills live on their own. Without this program, many of these young people risk homelessness and unemployment.

**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

**ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR POLICY AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
370 L'ENFANT PROMENADE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20447**

DATE:
TO: *Gaynor M^c Cown / Diana Fortuna*
Name:
Organization: *DPC*
Telephone:
Fax: *456 - 7028*
Number of Pages (excluding cover): *9*

FROM:

Name: **Ann Rosewater**
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Policy and External Affairs

Telephone: (202) 401-5180
Fax: (202) 205-3848

MESSAGE: *th -*

*Bruce Reed knows about this but I wanted you to
know as well -*

Ann

Videotaped Statement

Donna E. Shalala

Secretary of Health and Human Services

at

National Association of Family Based Services

Chicago, Illinois

12/6/95

GOOD AFTERNOON:

I want to thank Carroll Shroeder, Wanda Jenkins, Ann Greenwald, and each and every one of you for giving me the opportunity to join you via the information superhighway.

When the 5 year-old in Texas is living with fear, you help ease the pain and bring him to safety.

When the family in Florida is living on the edge, you provide the glue that helps keep them together.

And, while people in Washington talk and talk about what's right for families and children, you are on the frontlines -- day in and day out, year in and year out -- helping parents protect their own children.

And, that's never been more important than right now.

Today, our department is releasing the preliminary findings of a study that examines the tragedy of child abuse and neglect between 1986 and 1993. And, it doesn't paint a pretty picture.

We're seeing the number of abused and neglected children more than double -- from more than 1.4 Million to almost 3 million.

We're seeing the number of children seriously injured by abuse nearly quadruple -- from about 143,000 to more than 570,000.

All over this country, children are being hurt more often and more seriously -- and all of us must join hands to stop it, once and for all.

Unfortunately, the Republican Leadership in Congress disagrees. Their conference agreement on child welfare would turn our backs on vulnerable children and families -- just when they need us the most.

So, when they try to slash \$4.6 Billion dollars -- more than 20 percent -- from foster care, adoption assistance, and child abuse prevention programs, placing hundreds of thousands of children at additional risk -- we must say "no."

When they cut funding that empowers our community leaders to help strengthen families and stop abuse and neglect, before it occurs -- we must say "no."

And, when they undermine our promise to help the states place children where they want to be, in safe and loving homes -- we must say "no."

In fact, slashing child welfare funding reminds me of the old saying that the only difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits!

At a time when families are facing more obstacles than ever before, it makes absolutely no sense to decimate the foundation that helps them get strong -- and stay strong.

That's why the American Public Welfare Association and the National Council of State Human Service Administrators have opposed this conference agreement, explaining that it "is contrary to the best interest of vulnerable children and their families."

The Republican Leadership in Congress claims that they are reforming welfare. But, nothing could be further from the truth.

They're slashing giant holes in funding for child care, school lunches, and aid to disabled children -- and that's not welfare reform.

Together, we must send the message loud and clear: These cuts are a cruel holiday present for our most vulnerable children and families -- and, they will not stand.

So, as I leave you today, I want to thank you for providing a voice of energy and experience, of passion and perseverance.

And, as we continue this historic debate about the role of government and the character of our country, I know you will continue to stand up and speak out on behalf of our families and children. And, our Administration will be proud to stand with you.

Thank you -- and I hope you have a wonderful conference.

HHS FACT SHEET

DRAFT

#265

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

December 6, 1993

Contact: Michael Kharfen
(202) 401-9215**BACKGROUND:*****Preliminary Findings Regarding Child Abuse and Neglect***

- HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala cited new preliminary data today which add to the evidence of substantial increase in child abuse and neglect in the United States. Secretary Shalala's prepared remarks were presented in Chicago at a conference of the National Association of Family Based Services.
- The preliminary data are from the National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect, performed by Westat, a Maryland social science research corporation, for HHS' National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect. This is the third National Incidence Study -- the first was released in 1981, the second in 1988. The new study is to be released in final form early next year. The National Incidence Studies have been mandated by Congress.
- This study is designed to estimate the actual extent of child abuse and neglect in the United States, including cases not reported to child protective services. Instead of relying only on official reports of abuse and neglect, the estimates in the study are based on information from 5,700 community professionals who were likely to come into contact with maltreated children in a variety of community settings.
- The preliminary data indicate that the incidence of child abuse and neglect more than doubled over the seven year period, 1986-1993:
 - The number of abused and neglected children rose sharply from 1.4 million in 1986 to 2.9 million in 1993, an increase of 105 percent, according to the study.
 - The study also found that the number of children who were seriously injured nearly quadrupled over the same time period from about 143,000 to more than 572,000.
- These estimates of the actual incidence of abuse and neglect are higher than the number of cases reported, investigated and confirmed. From official data of reported cases investigated by Child Protective Services, we have known that over 1 million children were victims of abuse and neglect in 1993 and that the number of substantiated cases had grown by over 38 percent since 1986. The new estimates cited by Secretary Shalala suggest that many more children are being abused and neglected, and that the problem has been growing more rapidly than official reports indicate.

- 2 -

DRAFT
#965

- In her remarks, Secretary Shalala said that the increased number of children in danger will place more stress on an already overburdened and under-supported child protection system:

"All over this country, children are being hurt more often and more seriously -- and all of us must join hands to stop it, once and for all. We must maintain our national commitment to protect children's safety."

"The Republican leadership in Congress claims that they are reforming welfare. But nothing could be further from the truth. They're slashing giant holes in funding for child care, school lunches, and aid to disabled children - and that's not welfare reform."

"So, when Congress tries to slash \$4.6 billion dollars -- more than 20 percent -- from foster care, adoption assistance, and child abuse prevention programs -- placing hundreds of thousands of children at additional risk -- we must say No."

- In vetoing the Congressional reconciliation legislation Wednesday, President Clinton also addressed the question of welfare reform:

"Americans know we have to reform the broken welfare system, but cutting child care that helps mothers move from welfare to work, cutting help for abused and disabled children, cutting school lunch, that's not welfare reform. Real welfare reform should be tough on work and tough on responsibility, but not tough on children or tough on parents who are responsible and who want to work. We shouldn't lose this historic chance to end welfare as we know it by using the words 'welfare reform' as just another cover to violate our values."

###

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS RE NIS-3

1. What is the third National Incidence Study (NIS-3)?

The third National Incidence Study (NIS-3) is mandated by Congress under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (P.L. 100-294, as amended). The first study was conducted in 1979 and 1980; the second in 1986 and 1987. The third study was conducted in 1993 and 1994. The key objectives of NIS-3 are to determine the extent and severity of child abuse in the United States by taking a nationally representative sample of all cases of maltreatment, both known and unknown to CPS agencies, but recognized by community professionals, and projecting an estimated total from those findings.

2. Who is conducting the study?

The research firm of Westat, Inc. of Rockville, Maryland conducted the study. The Project Director is Dr. Andrea J. Sedlak, Associate Director of the Human Services Group at Westat, who also directed the NIS-2.

3. What does NIS-3 tell us? Why is it unique?

NIS-3 is the most scientifically reliable study that we have which attempts to give us a national estimate of all the children in the United States that are abused and neglected, as opposed to only those known to child protection agencies. What is unique about NIS-3 is that it gives us an estimate of actual abuse and neglect, not allegations of abuse and neglect.

4. How does it do that?

By taking an estimate based on a nationally-representative sampling of both CPS reports and mandated reporters from 42 counties from 24 States based on a three-month period in 1993.

5. What is the NIS-3 methodology?

Westat obtained data on all children who were reported and accepted for investigation from September through December of 1993 from the CPS agencies in each county. The non-CPS agency professionals, also known as "sentinels," were also contacted and asked to provide data on all children whom they suspected were abused and/or neglected. A sentinel is a community professional who serves children and families. Examples include: medical professionals, teachers, law enforcement, day care workers, and those professionals working in voluntary social service agencies.

6. Are you satisfied with the methodology?

Yes. This is the third incidence study that NCCAN has conducted. We now have comparable data that we can compare over time. Moreover, we have seen improvements in the study design with each version.

For NIS-3, NCCAN convened a panel of national experts to provide advice, guidance, and recommendations for improving the incidence studies. These experts were drawn from across the political spectrum, across various disciplines, and across agencies. All of their recommendations to improve the quality of the national estimate were followed.

7. What are the preliminary findings of this study?

There are two preliminary findings which can be stated quite simply: both the scope and severity of child maltreatment in America has increased dramatically.

Between 1986 and 1993, the total number of children in the U.S. who were abused or neglected has more than doubled: In 1986, there were an estimated 1,424,400 abused or neglected children in the U.S. The NIS-3 findings provided an estimate of 2,918,400, a 105 percent increase over the NIS-2 figure.

The number of children who incurred serious harm from abuse or neglect also increased by a startling amount: the numbers nearly quadrupled from 1986. In 1986, an estimated 143,300 children had been seriously injured or harmed by abuse or neglect; in 1993 the figure was 572,200 children (a 299% increase).

8. Do you think that this provides an accurate reflection of what's going on?

Unfortunately, yes. Although these are preliminary results, we are confident in the methodology. We have always suspected that there is under-reporting of child abuse to CPS.

9. How did the NIS-3 define serious abuse or neglect?

The groundwork for definitions began with the first study. A committee of professionals (CPS workers, pediatricians, researchers, social workers) spent over a year reviewing actual CPS cases to come up with the following rigorous standard.

The injury or harm done to the child was defined as serious when it involved a life-threatening condition, represented a long-term impairment of physical, mental, or emotional

capacities, or required professional treatment aimed at preventing such long-term impairment. Examples of a serious injury include:

- . loss of consciousness,
- . stopping breathing,
- . broken bones,
- . schooling loss which required special education services,
- . chronic and debilitating drug or alcohol abuse,
- . diagnosed cases of failure to thrive,
- . third degree burns or extensive second degree burns.

10. Are there differences in study definitions versus how the laws define abuse and neglect?

Yes, each State defines abuse and neglect in its own way. Therefore we would expect some variance with the study standards.

11. What is the source of the data?

There are two sources: CPS agency records and the cases submitted to the study by the sentinels. Sentinels are the professionals in the community such as teachers, social workers, medical personnel, day care workers, law enforcement.

12. Are you confident that the sentinels provide an accurate reflection of abuse and neglect?

Yes, sentinels undergo training in what the study defines as abuse and neglect and they are instructed to carefully explain what they've seen in that case and to document that abuse and neglect. Then the data forms they submit to the study undergo extensive evaluation to see if they conform to the study definitions.

13. Why doesn't CPS know about more of these cases?

The sentinels were asked to complete and return directly to the study a survey which identified every child that they had contact with over the three-month period who met the study definition of child abuse and neglect, whether or not these cases were reported to CPS.

Why these children are not known to CPS is unclear. All that we know is that they have not been investigated: they either were not reported or they were screened out at CPS.

14. What is the difference between NIS-3 and the NCANDS?

The National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) is designed to provide information on all children seen by public child protective services (CPS) agencies. The data are supplied directly by the State CPS agencies voluntarily to NCCAN. Information is collected on reports alleging maltreatment and on children whom an investigation determines have been victims of abuse and neglect, as governed by the laws and policies of the State.

The National Incidence Study uses a statistical sampling methodology to estimate the total incidence of abuse and neglect, including cases that may not have been known to CPS, but which were recognized by professionals in the community.

15. The National Incidence Study estimates that almost 3 million children were abused and neglected in 1993. Isn't that the same number that was already reported in the NCANDS report, *Child Maltreatment 1993*?

No. The NIS-3 preliminary estimate is that almost 3 million children were abused and neglected in 1993. Some of these children were known to CPS and some were not.

The NCANDS data show that in 1993, almost 3 million children were reported to CPS as alleged victims of maltreatment. Allegations of abuse and neglect were not substantiated for all of these children.

16. How is NIS-3 different from the Gallup Poll?

Gallup took a different approach to estimate the number of children abused -- they asked parents directly. But it is clear from their findings that we have further corroboration that the problem of abuse and neglect has increased significantly over the last several years.

17. What about other information we had in NIS-2? Do you have that data yet? When will the full report be released?

What we have released today are some of the preliminary findings. We anticipate release of the full report sometime in the spring of 1996.

CHILD WELFARE

"Our first challenge is to cherish our children and to strengthen America's families. Family is the foundation of American life. If we have stronger families, we will have a stronger America."

President Clinton
State of the Union Address
January 23, 1996

President Clinton is committed to improving the child welfare to ensure the safety of children and strengthen the capacity of parents to nurture healthy children. Given the critical nature of these services, the Administration supports an approach that provides States and communities with the flexibility to develop services that are responsive to the needs of their citizens.

ACLOM-DY 351-11
Background

Children become part of the child welfare system because they have been abused or neglected or because they are in danger of being abused or neglected.

Nearly 3 million children -- 4% of America's children -- were the subjects of reports alleging abuse or neglect in 1993. The rate of children reported for alleged abuse and neglect increased by nearly 25% between 1988 and 1993.

Foster care caseloads increased from 340,000 to 462,000 children between 1988 and 1993. Nearly 25% of children entering foster care are under age one, and many were exposed to drugs prenatally.

More than one thousand children die each year from maltreatment.

The child welfare provisions in the welfare reform conference agreement will not adequately protect children or promote the improvement of the child welfare system. Although the legislation would retain foster care and adoption maintenance payments under title IV-E of the Social Security Act as open-ended entitlement for eligible children, the remainder of Federal child welfare programs would be capped and tuned into two block grants to States, one called the Child Protection Block grant and the other the Child and Family Services Block Grant.

The Child Protection Block grant would replace all of the child welfare services (except maintenance payments) under the Social Security Act, some of which are now open-ended entitlements, some capped entitlements and some discretionary programs, into a single capped entitlements to

States. Over seven years, funding under this block grant would be reduced by \$4.6 billion, or 21 percent, compared to current law for these programs.

Accomplishments

Family Preservation and Support Act. This legislation, Passed in 1993, provided almost \$1 billion over five years for the development of Preventive and supportive services.

Waivers and Demonstration Projects. The President signed legislation authorizing development and implementation of 10 state waiver / demonstration projects in the child welfare system.

Multi-Ethnic Placement Act. Legislation passed in 1994 will help increase the number of adoptions, by prohibiting discrimination based on race or ethnicity, while allowing a narrow consideration for certain factors such as race.

More on the Republican Proposal

The welfare reform legislation now being considered by Congress:

Eliminates the Family Preservation and Family Support program and its focus on prevention and court improvement.

Caps and reduces funds available to States to support child placement services. Further, it repeals the Adoption Opportunities program which promotes innovative practice in special needs adoption.

Repeals the Abandoned Infants programs, which was established to respond to these continuing crises of AIDS and crack cocaine. These crises have disproportionate effects of families and child welfare systems in selected urban areas.

Eliminates all direct federal support for non-profit agencies, community-based organizations and public-private partnerships, such as Children's trust Funds, as well as all earmarked support for Prevention of child abuse and neglect.

Limits the collection of information on children in the child welfare system and decreases support for the development of information systems that would enable States to know how well they are protecting children.

CHILD WELFARE

"We have a national interest in the welfare of our children. Let's reform welfare. Let's cut the deficit. But let's not mix up the two and pretend that one is the other. Let's put our children first."

President Clinton
National Association of Counties
March 9, 1995

Background

- Children become part of the child welfare system because they have been abused or neglected or because they are in danger of being abused or neglected.
- Nearly 3 million children - 4% of America's children - were the subjects of abuse and neglect reports in 1993, a 25% increase from 1988.
- Foster care caseloads increased from 340,000 to 440,000 children between 1988 and 1993. Nearly 25% of children entering foster care are under age one, and many were exposed to drugs prenatally.
- More than one thousand children die each year from mistreatment.
- The Child Protection Block grant will not protect children or promote the improvement of the child welfare system. The amount of the block grant is set at \$4.4 billion in FY96. Over 5 years, the proposal would provide \$2.8 billion less for the block grant, a 10% cut.

More on the Republican Proposal

The welfare reform legislation being considered by the House:

- Repeals the Adoption Opportunities program and eliminates the Adoption Assistance program, leaving up to the states whether they can afford the subsidies that enable many children with special needs to find permanent homes.
- Repeals the Abandoned Infants programs, which was established to respond to the continuing crises of AIDS and crack cocaine. These crises have disproportionate effects on families and child welfare systems in selected urban areas.
- Eliminates all direct federal support for non-profit agencies, community-based organizations and public-private partnerships, such as Children's Trust Funds, as well as all earmarked support for prevention of child abuse and neglect.

- Caps foster care and adoption assistance payments and eliminates a critical safety valve for states.

The Clinton Position

The Clinton Administration is committed to improving the child welfare system to ensure the safety of children and strengthen the capacity of parents to nurture healthy children. Given the critical nature of these services, the Administration supports an approach that provides states and communities with the flexibility to develop services that are responsive to the needs of their citizens.

Accomplishments

- **Family Preservation and Support Act.** This legislation, passed in 1993, provided almost \$1 billion over five years for the development of preventive and supportive services.
- **Waivers and Demonstration Projects.** The President signed legislation authorizing development and implementation of 10 state waiver / demonstration projects in the child welfare arena.
- **Multi-Ethnic Placement Act.** Legislation passed in 1994 will help increase the number of adoptions, by allowing certain factors such as race to be considered in the adoption process but prohibiting discrimination based on race or ethnicity.
- **Increased Funding.** The Administration has increased adoption and foster care funds have increased by almost \$600 million from 1994 - 1995.

Update

The House Ways and Means Committee has passed the child welfare block grant proposal. The bill is on the House floor for consideration in late March. The Senate has begun hearings on welfare reform and will begin mark-up in April or May.

Latest Update: March 14, 1995

Office of Administration

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT LIBRARIES

Room 308
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500
(202) 395-7000
Fax: (202) 456-6569

FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

DATE: 3/12/96 FAX NUMBER: 6 7028

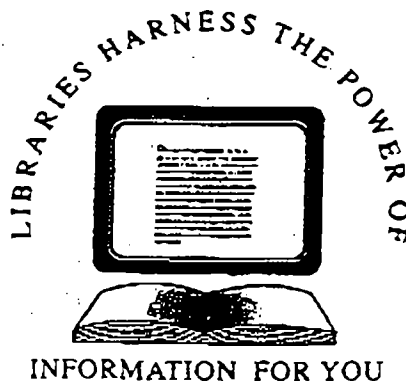
TO: Tom Lindsey

FROM: Melinda Alter

NUMBER OF PAGES: 8
(including cover page)

COMMENTS:

A search of Nexis brought up three recent articles on Mr Clinton and education vouchers, only one on Sunday. Since they are all short, I am faxing all three to you.



LEVEL 1 - 1 OF 3 STORIES

Copyright 1996 The Washington Post
The Washington Post

March 04, 1996, Monday, Final Edition

SECTION: EDITORIAL; Pg. A14

LENGTH: 503 words

HEADLINE: Getting on the Same Page

BODY:

THE SENATE has scheduled another cloture vote for Tuesday on the D.C. appropriations conference report containing the tuition voucher plan, and no one will predict the outcome. There's little reason to expect an end to the Democratic-led filibuster, although for the sake of the cash-short District, a time agreement should be reached. The last two unsuccessful efforts suggest that the D.C. Appropriations subcommittee chairman, Sen. James Jeffords (R-Vt.), faces an uphill climb to find the five votes necessary to break the stalling tactics. As tough as that is, however, converting obstinate senators is not the only task confronting Sen. Jeffords and the city.

Ending the city's "fiscal nightmare" isn't made any easier when officials who should be working for the city's interest are also opposed to the conference report. The list, unfortunately includes President Clinton and the District of Columbia school board. Of the two, President Clinton is doing the most damage. Sen. Jeffords has pressed the point that the District is in dire financial straits and needs the \$ 254 million that will become available once the bill is enacted. But the president pulled the rug out from under him by weighing in at the 11th hour with a veto threat because of tuition vouchers. According to Sen. Jeffords, Democrats who were lined up to support the conference report bailed out once the White House jumped in.

The president evidently believes what he's hearing from the education lobby, namely that vouchers are being rammed down the District's throat. But Sen. Jeffords, the bill's floor manager, says that under changes adopted in conference "The District council can refuse to spend a single penny on tuition scholarships -- not a penny." That compromise should, but doesn't, cut much ice with scholarship opponents. President Clinton's stance puts a consensus even further out of reach.

Faced with the prospect of running out of cash within weeks, Mayor Barry has walked the halls of the Senate urging members to support cloture. He has also sent a letter to Mr. Clinton urging him to get behind the city and off the national education lobby's bandwagon. The delayed federal payment and D.C. budget are undercutting crime fighting, putting vendors out of business, postponing Medicaid payments and denying schools money for books and equipment. But Mr. Barry also needs to turn his sights closer to home before next Tuesday's vote.

Even as the mayor and other city officials were blanketing the Hill to make their case for a five months overdue budget, and making plans to shut down the



LEXIS·NEXIS™

Ⓜ A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS·NEXIS™

Ⓜ A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS·NEXIS™

Ⓜ A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group

The Washington Post, March 04, 1996

government if the city runs out of money, D.C. school board members, led by their president Karen Shook, were urging defeat of the D.C. appropriations conference report because of the weakened voucher provision. Well, up until now, they and the national education lobby have prevailed -- but at the expense of the rest of the city. Voters should remember which officials weren't on the same page with the city.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 04, 1996



LEXIS·NEXIS®

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS·NEXIS®

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS·NEXIS®

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group

LEVEL 1 - 2 OF 3 STORIES

Copyright 1996 The Washington Post
The Washington Post

February 28, 1996, Wednesday, Final Edition

SECTION: A SECTION; Pg. A01

LENGTH: 995 words

HEADLINE: Senate Rejects Tuition Vouchers, Keeping D.C. Budget in Limbo.

BYLINE: David A. Wise, Washington Post Staff Writer

BODY:

Under heavy pressure from national teachers unions, the Senate defeated a proposal yesterday that could have given some poor D.C. parents as much as \$ 3,000 a year in public funds to pay for their children to attend private school.

A group that included the National Education Association, which is influential within the Democratic Party, had argued that the proposed tuition voucher program could set a dangerous and costly national precedent by diverting public school funds to private and religious schools. President Clinton threatened to veto the measure if it passed, a factor that encouraged all but four Senate Democrats to vote against it.

Lost in the debate over national education policy was the plight of the cash-strapped District government, which was precluded from getting about \$ 220 million of its annual federal payment because the vote on the voucher plan was part of the city's fiscal 1996 budget. Yesterday's vote leaves the District without a spending plan, and Mayor Marion Barry (D) warned that his government could run out of money this spring if Congress doesn't pass one soon.

Dale Lestina, senior lobbyist for the National Education Association, said yesterday's vote demonstrated the group's political clout and had little to do with the District. In fact, many Senate Democrats who customarily sympathize with the city voted against its budget because of the voucher provision, which had been championed by House Republicans.

"It is much bigger than D.C.," Lestina said. "That is what brings us into it. . . . The proponents of [vouchers] have said if they get this done on D.C., they will move with a bill just like this for all of the urban centers in the United States. We feel it runs afoul of separation of church and state."

The National PTA also opposed the voucher plan, and its chief lobbyist, Arnold Pege, said that defeating it was "a major priority issue. . . . We mobilized on the issue. That \$ 5 million [voucher program] is not going to energize or reform the D.C. public schools."

Rep. James T. Walsh (R-N.Y.), leader of the House Republican group that adamantly supported vouchers, called yesterday's action a victory for teachers unions but not for children. He said that allowing D.C. children to use public money for private school tuition would give them safer, more effective



LEXIS·NEXIS[®]

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS·NEXIS[®]

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS·NEXIS[®]

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group

The Washington Post, February 28, 1996

alternatives to the city's public schools.

Singling out Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), a leading opponent of vouchers, Walsh said: "I really think it is unfortunate that Senator Kennedy would prevent . . . poor kids in Washington from having the same choices he had in deciding whether to go to private or public schools. This is a very, very wealthy man denying the poorest kids in our society an opportunity to get a good education."

Kennedy said vouchers would divert money from public education at a time when Congress already has cut back. "Our goal is to support public schools, not abandon them," he said.

"Many people think that low-income students will be able to go to the private school of their choice because of the voucher provision in this bill," he said. "But the private schools can decide whether to accept a child or not. The real choice is given to the private schools, not parents or students."

The proposal defeated yesterday was for a pilot program that would have made available \$ 5 million for private-school tuition vouchers of as much as \$ 3,000 a student. But the legislation also required the D.C. Council to give its approval to vouchers, something that Barry argued would not happen.

Voucher opponents said they did not want Congress to go on record approving vouchers in any form. They also argued that the \$ 3,000 amount would enable poor students to pay the full cost of tuition at some religious schools but not at most other private schools, raising the prospect of tax money going to support church-related institutions.

The District's public schools spend as much as \$ 9,200 on each student, according to the schools' estimates.

One of the few Senate Democrats who supported the voucher provision yesterday was Joseph I. Lieberman (Conn.), who argued that many children are trapped in unsafe public schools where "teachers are afraid to teach." Lieberman said he was impressed by a recent visit to a church-run school in the District's Anacostia area.

"There is something special to be learned from these schools," Lieberman said. "We have nothing to fear from them and a lot to learn from their sense of purpose and dedication. Perhaps in public schools we can build on some of that."

The voucher proposal lost on a procedural maneuver, when opponents defeated an effort to cut off debate on the District's 1996 budget. Senate rules require 60 of its 100 members to vote to end debate on any issue. Yesterday's tally was 54 to 44 in favor of stopping; although the voucher plan won the support of a Senate majority, it fell six votes short of what was needed.

Senate Majority Leader Robert J. Dole (R-Kan.), who voted for the measure, said he will bring the voucher plan back before the Senate tomorrow. But Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.) and others said a change in the outcome is unlikely.

Locally, senators voted along party lines. Democrats Barbara A. Mikulski and Paul S. Sarbanes of Maryland and Charles S. Robb of Virginia voted against the



LEXIS-NEXIS

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS-NEXIS

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS-NEXIS

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group

The Washington Post, February 28, 1996

bill, while Republican John W. Warner of Virginia voted in favor.

Norton said the District still is likely to get its \$ 220 million in federal aid but probably will have to wait until next month when Congress is scheduled to take up a broader spending bill.

Barry noted that the District still has no approved 1996 budget almost five months after the fiscal year began Oct. 1 and is falling ever further behind on paying its bills. He said that trying to fix the city's finances in these circumstances "is like bailing water in the ocean."

Staff writer Ann Devroy contributed to this report.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: February 28, 1996



LEXIS·NEXIS®

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS·NEXIS®

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS·NEXIS®

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group

LEVEL 1 - 3 OF 3 STORIES

Copyright 1996 The Washington Post
The Washington Post

February 11, 1996, Sunday, Final Edition

SECTION: OP-ED; Pg. C08; CLOSE TO HOME

LENGTH: 703 words

HEADLINE: Vouchers: An Escape From Inexcusable Schools

BODY:

Following the recent murder of 14-year-old Damion Blocker at a D.C. school, a Jan. 23 Post editorial asked the District's silent education authorities, "Where's the Outrage?" That is a good question, but one that is too narrowly focused and probably directed at the wrong audience.

Obviously, there should be plenty of outrage when any student, not to mention a 14-year-old father, is shot to death in a D.C. public school. But the same question should be raised about most of the other things taking place in the D.C. public schools.

Where is the outrage over the shortage of schoolbooks, missing teachers, unusable bathrooms, terrible test scores and functionally illiterate graduates? The question "Where's the Outrage?" should be directed at the entire Washington community.

If the president and the Senate cooperate, that community soon will be given an opportunity to express its outrage with the D.C. public schools. On Jan. 31, the House of Representatives passed an education reform package for the District that includes a small, restricted voucher or scholarship program. It would enable a limited number of low-income students to receive up to \$ 3,000 each to attend private -- including sectarian -- schools in the District. Should this bill become law, many D.C. parents, disgusted with the poor quality of their public schools, will be able to make clear their unhappiness by applying for a voucher. This is the kind of school reform that education authorities here dread.

No one should be surprised at the opposition already being heard from the school board, the school superintendent and others. These are the experts who can't figure out how to make the schools safe. They can't get average SAT scores above a level that is almost 200 points below the national average, and they are unwilling and unable to compete with the District's private schools or the better schools in the suburbs. These are the "educators" who promote thousands of illiterate and innumerate students and watch more than 40 percent of the city's children drop out before graduation. They have more to answer for than just the sad death of Damion Blocker.

Vouchers will offer D.C. parents a form of referendum on their public schools. Choice is the only fair solution when public schools don't educate and show no sign of improving and when parents can't afford private schools or housing in communities with decent public schools. Almost no member of Congress,



LEXIS-NEXIS[®]

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS-NEXIS[®]

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS-NEXIS[®]

A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group

The Washington Post, February 11, 1996

senior administration official or well-fixed Washingtonian is willing to send his or her children to more than a handful of the 164 D.C. public schools. With good reason. But why should the other public schools be considered good enough for the children of poor D.C. residents?

Until all the schools in the District are brought up to much higher standards, those who wish to leave the system deserve a publicly funded voucher to pay for better education in safer schools.

Leaders like Sen. James M. Jeffords, the Vermont Republican in the forefront of the opposition to a more liberal voucher program, President Clinton and Vice President Gore don't send their children to schools like Ballou, Anacostia, Coolidge or Phelps. But many D.C. parents have no other choice. Some surely would like to see their children prepared for schools like Harvard and Yale, where the president, the vice president and the senator were students. But if they remain in the D.C. public schools, many of these children will be lucky to stay alive, let alone learn to read and write.

What's been missing up to this point has been community outrage at the fact that thousands of Damion Blockers have remained trapped in unsafe schools that provide little or no education. Now there is a small opening for some of them to make their way out.

It is time to get this voucher program, limited as it may be, passed and implemented. As soon as possible after that, it should be greatly expanded. This is the best opportunity some of the parents of Washington are likely to have in a long time to provide their children with the education they will never get in most D.C. public schools.

-- Dennis C. Goodman

is a member of

Education First Coalition.

GRAPHIC: Illustration, margaret scott

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: February 11, 1996



LEXIS·NEXIS®

Ⓜ A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS·NEXIS®

Ⓜ A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



LEXIS·NEXIS®

Ⓜ A member of the Reed Elsevier plc group



Administration for Children & Families

Facsimile from:

CHILD CARE BUREAU
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
HHH Building, Room 320 F
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201
Phone: 202.690.6782
Fax 202.690.5600

Date: 1/29

This transmission consists of this cover page plus 3 pages.

To: Gaynor McCown	From: Joan Lombardi
Phone:	Phone:
Fax: 456-7028	Fax: 202.690.5600

Message:

Gaynor- Here's a great article on child care needs - really captures the message - please share with D&C staff.

By the way - could you help me set up an "At the Table" with Child Care Resource & Referral folks Feb 29th in the afternoon - 1hr - & it would be great to have you, Carol, Betty & mother

Thanks!

Joan

Crunched by child-care costs

Because state subsidies are limited, some parents must quit their jobs and rely on welfare or take lower-paying jobs.

By HOLLI MARTMAN

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Johnson did not want to go on welfare, but child-care costs were eating up most of her paychecks from Mercy Hospital Medical Center in Des Moines.

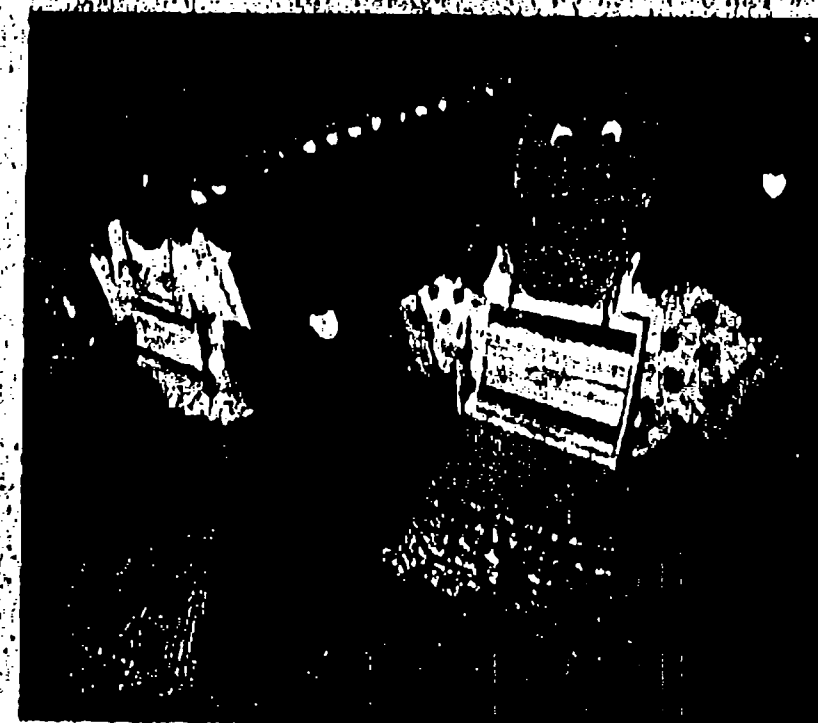
Nearly half of her \$520 gross salary per pay period went to pay for her son Evan's care. One time, all that was left in her paycheck was \$9.38.

She applied three times for government child-care assistance in 1985. But her annual gross pay was \$10 more than the poverty level, the cutoff for eligibility.

"They were squeezing everything out," said Johnson, 30, who lost her job three months ago and went on welfare. She's now studying to become an emergency medical technician. "It really doesn't do me any good to work."

Jobs Caught

Johnson, along with thousands of other low-income single parents, is caught in the child-care Catch-22. Because the state no longer provides child-care assistance for the working



DAVID PETERLIN/REGISTER

Paper dolls circled a floor of the Iowa Capitol during a recent campaign by children's advocates. Each doll had its own message, such as: "My name is Jessie. My mom stays home with me and my baby sister all day, because she can't find a job or day care."

poor, some are forced to quit their jobs and rely on welfare or take lower-paying jobs.

But once they do, they find themselves lined up behind 1,300 others already on a waiting list for sub-

sidies. The state hasn't budgeted enough to pay child-care fees for all who fall under the poverty line, which is an annual salary of \$12,588 a year for a family of three, for example.

"I've been involved in this work since 1972, and I don't remember a time when I've seen day care as bad as it is right now," said Dorina Walgren, executive director of Children and Families of Iowa, which operates five child-care facilities in Des Moines.

State officials said the state can't afford to pay child-care subsidies to everyone who is eligible.

"There's not enough money in the current budget to fund new cases in child care," said Don Kassar, an administrator with the Iowa Department of Human Services. "We've got to get the spending down. . . . We have to stay within budgeted funds."

Branded Recommendation

Gov. Terry Branstad has recommended increasing the state's portion of child-care assistance by \$1 million.

"Looking at the full range of priorities, the governor felt this was an important enough area to recommend an increase," said Eric Westgren, the governor's press secretary. "There are parts of the state budget that are not receiving increases."

The increase won't be enough to take care of the waiting list, but the state is hoping for more federal money, Kassar said.

That doesn't placate Trish Harlow, manager of community services

WELFARE Please turn to Page 18A

Some Iowa parents feeling crunched by child-care costs

WELFARE

Continued from Page 1A

for the Polk County Department of Social Services. She said she gets angry when she hears about the state's \$435 million revenue surplus and the governor's plan to cut property and inheritance taxes.

"I find it insulting," she said. "All the headlines about excess money and we still have lists. I don't want my taxes cut on the backs of people trying to get out of poverty."

Struggling Along

In the meantime those on the waiting list struggle, said child welfare advocates.

Parents scramble to make arrangements with relatives or friends or leave elementary-age children at home alone. Some quit their jobs or get fired when they have no one to watch their children, said Dawn Francis, coordinator of the Family Support Center at Oakridge Neighborhood Services in Des Moines.

Kimberley Myles, 30, of Des Moines said she is unsure what to do with her children. She works from 6 to 9 p.m. at a telemarketing firm and used to drop off her two children at a child-care center. But she could not continue to pay the \$150 a week, so lately she has been leaving them with her husband, from whom she's separated.

"I'm not comfortable leaving my kids with him," she

Alicia Lewis with Children
Families of Iowa said a single

parents will go "center hopping" — enrolling their children in a child-care facility until they are kicked out for non-payment.

"The trauma that I see are the parents who can't get child care and then place their children in jeopardy," Lewis said.

The state operates several programs that provide child-care assistance. The largest helps those at the poverty level. About \$20.6 million is

**Alicia Lewis with
Children and Families
of Iowa said some
single parents will go
"center hopping" —
enrolling their children
in a child-care facility
until they are kicked
out for non-payment.**

federal and state money will be spent on the program this year, which includes \$7.6 million in state money.

For those who go on welfare, a different pool of child-care money becomes available. But it goes to those who work. Those who want post-secondary education to get better-paying jobs must add their names to a list that's already 4,000 deep.

Yet another pool pays up to two years in child-care costs for those who get off well. It's not avail-

able for those who have never been on welfare and are trying to stay off.

The state used to pay assistance for those earning up to 155 percent of poverty. But the eligibility threshold was lowered to 100 percent of poverty in 1993 to save money. Kassir said about 75 percent of applicants at the time were below the poverty line when the rule changed.

The Iowa Child Care Coalition, a group of private and public child welfare agencies, thinks the threshold should be raised again now that the state is in good financial condition. The extra \$1 million Branstad proposed is "not nearly enough," said Virginia Petersen, director of Polk County Social Services and part of the Iowa Child Care Coalition.

"Poor Working People"

"Even if there are more federal dollars coming to the state, the federal dollars are to take care of people who are supposed to move off of the welfare rolls," she said. "We're talking about poor working people that need child care in order to survive and stay working."

The coalition said the state should spend at least \$10.5 million more to pay for child-care subsidies for those at poverty or below. Raising the eligibility to 155 percent of poverty — or less than \$19,500 annually for a family of three — would cost an extra \$23 million, the coalition estimates.

The money should be spent up if Iowa wants its welfare re-

form effort to work in the long run, Petersen said.

"People who have a full-time job at \$5.50 or \$6 an hour don't qualify for child care," she said. "And at \$5.50 or \$6 an hour, you cannot afford to pay \$90 a week to keep a baby in child care and still pay your rent."

But state officials said those people must not be signing up for welfare in droves, because the number of people enrolled in Iowa's Family Investment Program has declined since April 1994, said Ann Wiebers, a welfare reform coordinator with the Department of Human Services.

Kassir added: "I don't see it more of a crisis than the waiting list we had three years ago," which around 8,000 people before human services cut the eligibility threshold.

*"I've been involved in this work since 1972,
and I don't remember a time when I've seen
day care as bad as it is right now."*

— Donna Walgren of Children and Families of Iowa



Kimberly Myles admires the artwork of her children, Autumn, left, and Emmet, right, in their Des Moines apartment. Myles says she has had difficulty finding affordable care for her children while she works a telemarketing job in the evening.

(BOB MODERSON/ THE REGISTER)

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES
CHILDREN'S BUREAU
330 C. STREET, SW, SWITZER BLDG., ROOM 2070
WASHINGTON, DC, 20201-0001
OFFICE***202-205-8618 FAX***(202)260-9345

*****FAX COVER SHEET*****

DATE: November 30, 1995

TO: Diana Fortuna
Domestic Policy

ORGANIZATION: The White House

RECIPIENT'S FAX NUMBER: 202-495-4567 456-7431

FROM: Carol Williams

Gail Collins
205-8087

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: OFFICE****(202)205-8618
FAX***** (202)260-9345.

NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 5

REMARKS: Attached is an updated version of the
Fact sheet on child welfare. You may want to double
check, revise or delete the last bullet on page 3
regarding increased funding for foster care & adoption.
Also attached are some talking points. If you have questions
...

CHILD WELFARE

"We have a national interest in the welfare of our children. Let's reform welfare. Lets cut the deficit. But let's not mix up the two and pretend that one is the other. Let's put our children first."

President Clinton
National Association of Counties
March 9, 1995

Background

- Children become part of the child welfare system because they have been abused or neglected or because they are in danger of being abused or neglected.

Nearly 3 million children -- 4% of America's children -- were the subjects of reports alleging abuse or neglect in 1993. The rate of children reported for alleged abuse and neglect increased by nearly 25% between 1988 and 1993.

Foster care caseloads increased from 340,000 to 462,000¹ children between 1988 and 1993. Nearly 25% of children entering foster care are under age one, and many were exposed to drugs prenatally.

More than one thousand children die each year from maltreatment.

The child welfare provisions in the welfare reform conference agreement will not adequately protect children or promote the improvement of the child welfare system. Although the legislation would retain foster care and adoption maintenance payments under title IV-E of the Social Security Act as open-ended entitlements for eligible children, the remainder of Federal child welfare programs would be capped and turned into two block grants to States, one called the Child Protection Block grant and the other the Child and Family Services Block Grant.

The Child Protection Block grant would replace all of the child welfare services (except maintenance payments) under the Social Security Act, some of which are now open-ended entitlements, some capped entitlements and some discretionary programs, into a single capped entitlement to States. Over seven years, funding under this block grant would be reduced by \$4.6 billion, or 21 percent, compared to current law for these programs.

¹ Preliminary estimate by the American Public Welfare Association.

More on the Republican Proposal

The welfare reform legislation now being considered by Congress:

Eliminates the Family Preservation and Family Support program and its focus on prevention and court improvement.

Caps and reduces funds available to States to support child placement services. Further, it repeals the Adoption Opportunities program which promotes innovative practices in special needs adoption.

Repeals the Abandoned Infants programs, which was established to respond to the continuing crises of AIDS and crack cocaine. These crises have disproportionate effects on families and child welfare systems in selected urban areas.

Eliminates all direct federal support for non-profit agencies, community-based organizations and public-private partnerships, such as Children's Trust Funds, as well as all earmarked support for Prevention of child abuse and neglect.

Limits the collection of information on children in the child welfare system and decreases support for the development of information systems that would enable States to know how well they are protecting children.

The Clinton Position

The Clinton Administration is committed to improving the child welfare system to ensure the safety of children and strengthen the capacity of parents to nurture healthy children. Given the critical nature of these services, the Administration supports an approach that provides States and communities with the flexibility to develop services that are responsive to the needs of their citizens.

Accomplishments

Family Preservation and Support Act. This legislation, Passed in 1993, provided almost \$1 billion over five years for the development of Preventive and supportive services.

Waivers and Demonstration Projects. The President signed legislation authorizing development and implementation of 10 state waiver / demonstration projects in the child welfare arena.

Multi-Ethnic Placement Act. Legislation passed in 1994 will help increase the number of adoptions, by prohibiting discrimination based on race or ethnicity, while allowing a narrow consideration for certain factors such as race.

GailC:

~~Increased Funding.~~ The Administration has increased adoption and foster care funds by almost \$600 million from 1994 - 1995.

] not
sure
what

Update

based on

House and Senate conferees have concluded deliberations on the welfare reform package, but the legislation has not yet reached final passage.

Latest Update

November 30, 1995

**REPUBLICAN RECONCILIATION CHILD SAFETY AND ADOPTION
TALKING POINTS**

- o Real welfare reform is not about cutting help for abused and neglected children, or making it harder for children to find a loving adoptive home. While Republicans claim that they have maintained the current foster care and adoption assistance programs, the conference bill slashes resources sharply and undermines the ability of states to protect children's safety, prevent child abuse and neglect, and recruit safe and loving foster and adoptive homes.
- o The conference bill block grants and cuts funding for child protection programs by \$4.6 billion over seven years, or 23 percent. At a time of major changes in the safety net for families, it is doubly dangerous to cut back resources that protect the safety of abused and neglected children. In 1993, nearly 3 million children were reported as alleged victims of child abuse and neglect, and reports involving over 1 million children were substantiated. Placements in foster care have also been rising rapidly; between 1983 and 1993, the number of children in foster care increased by about two-thirds.
- o The conference bill makes it harder for states to promote adoption and to find loving and safe foster and adoptive homes for children who cannot be safe in their own homes. Currently, states are guaranteed partial reimbursement of their expenses for recruiting and training foster and adoptive families. The conference bill ends this guarantee and caps and cuts state funding, making it harder for states to find foster homes and adoptive homes for hard-to-place children with special needs.
- o The conference bill would further weaken state child welfare systems that are already strained to the limit, by cutting funding that now supports critical community-based services and local caseworkers who work directly with children. Courts in 22 states have found that state child welfare systems are unable to provide children with basic protection.
- o The bill weakens state accountability for protecting children's safety, by hampering data collection and enforcement of critical child protections. For example, the bill repeals the requirement that children be in licensed foster homes, potentially putting children's safety at risk.
- o The conference bill could jeopardize the ability of states to protect the safety of children in case of unpredictable increases in abuse and neglect, such as those produced by the crack epidemic. While the conference bill would guarantee resources to the States to pay for the foster care placements themselves, it fails to ensure the resources required to make the placement happen: recruitment and training of qualified staff to work with the children, families, and the courts; case managers to plan services for children's safety; training and recruitment and training of foster parents.
- o The conference bill repeals targeted funding to prevent abuse and neglect by strengthening families and supporting communities. The bill repeals critically-needed funding for community-based approaches to prevent child abuse and neglect, strengthen families, and prevent unnecessary placements in foster care.
- o The conference bill repeals funding to help teenagers in foster care gain the skills live on their own. Without this program, many of these young people risk homelessness and unemployment.