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E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

06-Feb-1996 10:01am

TO: (See Below)

FROM: Marilyn Yager
 Office of Public Liaison

SUBJECT: Governors meeting

As you all know, the President is speaking at 11:00 am this morning to the governors and his comments will include our reaction to the Medicaid and welfare resolutions the governors passed this morning.

As soon as we have the transcript we will get it to you each of you.

I can tell you that on Medicaid he will say that the Governors have made significant movement towards our position (which they have), BUT key concerns remain.

We are not signing on to their position. As soon as I have Medicaid talking points I will get them to you.

On Welfare reform, i have less information and I know Richard is also trying to get an update, so stay tuned.

Distribution:

TO: Kathleen (Kate) Carr
TO: Marilyn DiGiacobbe
TO: Ann T. Eder
TO: Deborah L. Fine
TO: Jay K. Footlik
TO: Alexis Herman
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TO: Dana A. Wyckoff
TO: Marilyn Yager

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E

05-Feb-1996 06:26pm

TO: William White

FROM: Diana M. Fortuna
 Domestic Policy Council

SUBJECT: Part 1

ADMINISTRATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
TALKING POINTS

This Administration is committed to supporting the 49 million Americans with disabilities in their efforts to exercise their full rights and responsibilities, to live as independently as possible, and to be productive throughout their lives.

President Clinton has stated, "We must not rest until America has a national disability policy based on three simple creeds: inclusion, not exclusion; independence, not dependence; and empowerment, not paternalism."

Every day in our country, persons with disabilities are exceeding the expectations that our society has set for them. Our nation's greatness rests with its people's potential to make the most of their lives and thereby shape the future of our country. Americans with disabilities represent an enormous reservoir of such potential. To tap this potential and power, all of us must heed the President's urgent call to action.

Federal Appointments

The President has appointed an unprecedented number of people with disabilities to important policy-making jobs in the Administration.

Working to End Discrimination against Americans with Disabilities

The Clinton Administration has demonstrated its commitment to implement the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the other critical civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination against Americans with disabilities (the Rehabilitation Act and the Fair Housing Act amendments).

The ADA, signed into law in 1990, eliminates discrimination in access, employment, transportation, and communications for Americans with disabilities.

Under President Clinton's leadership, the Department of Justice has worked to educate the public about the ADA and has increased enforcement activities by investigating thousands of complaints about employment, government services, public accommodations, and transportation. The Administration's emphasis on public education and enforcement has substantially increased voluntary compliance with the ADA.

Attacks on the ADA:

Some in Congress and the media use anecdotal evidence to claim that the ADA requires businesses and state and local governments to make unreasonable and expensive accommodations, and that it

encourages unnecessary litigation.

We can't afford to dismiss any threat to the ADA lightly. When Republican leaders in Congress call the ADA an "disaster", we must continue to work very hard to dispel some of the myths that are circulated about the ADA.

Nevertheless, we must all remember the President's pledge to defend the ADA. At his comments last year at the White House roundtable held in observation of the 5th anniversary of the ADA, he said he would veto any substantive change to the ADA "in a heartbeat."

Fortunately, this rhetoric has not materialized into significant proposed legislation, at least at this point. This is due in large part to the activism of the disability community in hitting hard with the facts against misinformation about the ADA.

Education and IDEA:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the 20-year old law governing special education that first guaranteed the right to an education for children with disabilities, is a key piece of civil rights legislation. Prior to its enactment, many children with disabilities were not able to attend school.

The Department of Education is committed to defending the law's guarantee of a public education in the least restrictive environment, and to increasing IDEA's focus on outcomes and cutting paperwork for schools.

Support for the IDEA is a key piece of the Administration's lifelong learning agenda, which includes the Goals 2000 Act, which encourages education reform for all children, the National Service Act, and the School-to-Work Act, which is working to empower all individuals, including those with disabilities, to make a successful transition from school to the workplace of the 21st century.

Employment of People with Disabilities:

We must work to educate people that having a disability does not mean being dependent and unproductive. The unemployment rate for people with disabilities is approximately 68%. Many people with disabilities who could work are deterred from seeking employment because they know they would not qualify for employer-based health insurance due to a preexisting condition. That's another reason that access to health insurance is so critical for people with disabilities.

In order to ensure that Federal policies are guided by the goals of inclusion, independence, and empowerment, the Administration is conducting a review of disability programs and policies, under the direction of Carol Rasco, the President's Domestic Policy

Advisor, and Alice Rivlin, Director of Management and Budget.

Responsive Services for Families

The Administration recognizes that families who are raising children with disabilities require support. The Department of Health and Human Services supports services and research that enhance independence and quality of life for people with disabilities and their families, including income support, Medicaid, adoption assistance, and Maternal and Child Health programs.

In addition, the President protected all American families when he signed the Family and Medical Leave Act and the Childhood Immunization Initiative.

The Republican budget vetoed by the President would have severely cut back the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program for children with disabilities, by reducing cash assistance for most of the families entering the program. The loss of cash assistance would be devastating to many low-income families struggling to care for a child at home. SSI pays for a variety of costs for families with disabled children -- including lost income, diapers, home modification, respite care, equipment, special dietary items, etc. The Administration is working to ensure that any changes to this program are fair.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E

05-Feb-1996 06:27pm

TO: William White

FROM: Diana M. Fortuna
 Domestic Policy Council

SUBJECT: part 2 of 2

MEDICAID AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
TALKING POINTS

This Administration is working to protect Medicaid and Medicare and the people served by these programs, including people with disabilities.

We are engaged in a serious national debate about how to balance the Federal budget. We must balance the budget, but in a way that reflects the values that we have always held dear in this country. The President's plan for a balanced budget calls for reasonable reforms in Medicaid and Medicare, while keeping our guarantee to those who need these programs, including Americans with disabilities.

One positive development is that there is now renewed hope that we may be able to enact insurance reforms this year, including prohibiting insurance companies from denying coverage due to preexisting conditions. This reform is critical for people with disabilities.

Why Medicaid is So Important to People with Disabilities
Medicaid is the primary insurer of children and adults with disabilities. It provides health and rehabilitation services for 6 million individuals with disabilities. Often Medicaid is the only form of health care coverage that people with disabilities can obtain. Without Medicaid, medical costs for a child or adult with a disability can easily impoverish a middle class family.

People with disabilities of all ages, and their families, most often prefer to receive services and supports at home and in the community, so that they can participate more fully in family and community life. Over the past 15 years, as institutionalization has become less common and people with disabilities have increasingly become part of their communities, the Medicaid program has adapted to this change.

Medicaid provides health coverage for approximately 734,000

adults with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities (MR/DD). Medicaid services enable many people with MR/DD to live in their homes and communities, to take care of themselves and their homes, get around in their communities, and work.

Medicaid and Children with Disabilities

Cuts in Medicaid would be particularly devastating to children with disabilities. There are approximately one million children with disabilities on Medicaid. These families cannot access the private insurance market for all their child's needs, or often even at all.

Medicaid allows many children with disabilities to get services at home or in the community. These services have grown rapidly over the past 15 years. Prior to that time, an institution was too often the only option for a middle-class family with a child with a disability.

In addition to the services that Medicaid provides children with disabilities in hospitals and doctors' offices, Medicaid also pays for equipment like wheelchairs and communication devices; therapy, including teaching parents to perform needed therapies at home; respite care for parents who need an occasional break in caring for a disabled child; and home modifications needed to allow a child to live at home.

Republican Budget Proposals

Under the Republicans' proposal to block grant and reduce Medicaid funds, states would be forced to reduce Medicaid eligibility and benefits for disabled individuals.

- o Families of children with severe disabilities might be forced to impoverish themselves paying for their children's medical care. Without these services, some parents may have to give up their jobs to stay home to care for their children or, worse yet, seek institutional placements for their children.
- o Adults with MR/DD who live independently in community settings with Medicaid supports might be forced to enter state institutions or return to the homes of their aging parents, who would have to provide care formerly covered by Medicaid.

Faced with the Republican budget cuts, home and community-based programs will find it especially hard to compete with hospitals and nursing homes for scarce Medicaid dollars at the state level.

ABILITY

Health Disability Human Potential

To: Richard Kastro

From: ABILITY Magazine

Fax: 202-456-6218

FACT SHEET

- **ABILITY Magazine is the nation's largest circulation publication that addresses issues having an impact on the 49,000,000 Americans with disabilities.**
- **ABILITY Magazine is editorially targeted to people with disabilities, people directly associated with disabilities and businesses that need to keep abreast of the latest information on disability issues and the ADA.**
- **Distributed by Time Warner Publishing, ABILITY sends a uniquely positive message to the country's largest minority group and their families, as well as to legislators, educators and health care professionals.**
- **Each issue of ABILITY Magazine features up-beat topics that serve to erase negative images of disabilities and create new, positive awareness.**
- **ABILITY Magazine's articles range from CEO profiles and the latest trends in technology to star-quality personality cover stories, like Cher, Ray Charles, Annette Funicello, Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Pryor who share their innermost feelings about health, disabilities and human potential with our readers.**
- **ABILITY Magazine fills the need for a large untapped niche with human interest stories of people who take the "dis" out of disability.**
- **ABILITY Magazine has generated widespread attention. It has attracted national newspaper, radio and television coverage.**
- **ABILITY Magazine's advertisers know the benefit of being associated with a publication that focuses on empowering everyone to achieve their maximum potential.**

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THE DISABILITY MARKET:

An Opportunity Coming Into Focus

Traditional View		New Vision
Market Segment	Advertising (\$Million)	"Participating in this market is not an altruistic endeavor, it's the greatest example I know of enlightened self-interest." Ken Olshan Chairman Wells, Rich Greene
Asian	--	
Hispanic	628	
Black	736	
Disability	0	

THE DISABILITY MARKET'S MULTIPLIER FACTOR:

Reaches Over One-Third of America.

The New Numbers of the Disability Market.

1 out of 6
Americans
have a disability

1 = 1
6 = 3

1 out of 3
People
have either a family
member or friend who
has a disability

Source: Harris Poll

Provided by: ABILITY Magazine

MARKET VITALITY

Growth and Spending

Market Segment	% US Population	Growth vs. 1980	Consumer Spending (\$ Billion)
Asian	2.8	+61.6%	..
Hispanic	9.8	+53.0%	172
Black	11.8	+11.9%	250
Disability	17.3	↑ *	250+ **

*Growth: Demographic factors aging Baby Boomer segment and longer life span will result in significant segment growth.

**Spending: Household income versus other minority segments.

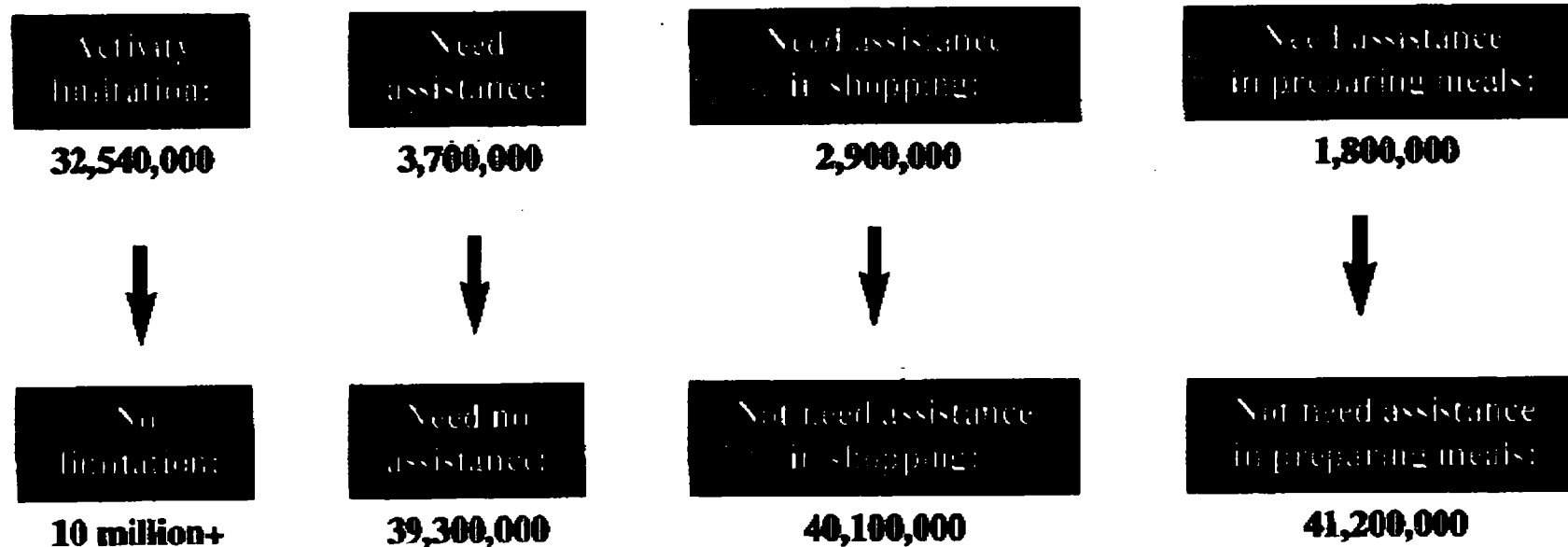
Source: Advertising Age

Provided by: ABILITY Magazine

DYNAMICS OF THE DISABILITY MARKET

An awareness and understanding is needed to dispell many of the incorrect perceptions and stereotypes surrounding the Disability Marketplace

Americans with Disabilities: 49,000,000



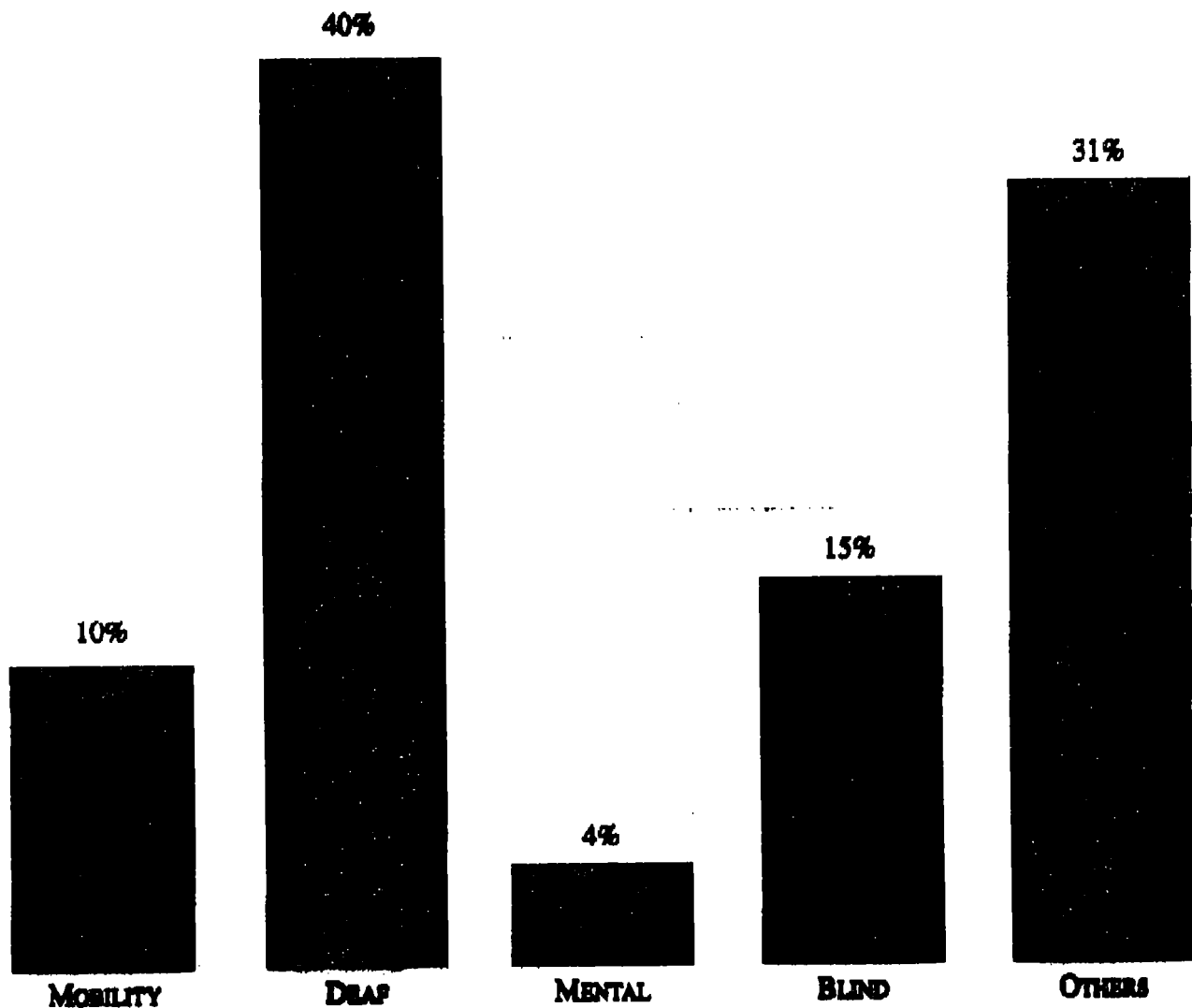
—in one or more of eight basic physical activities

Source: National Health Interview Survey, Home Care Supplement, 1979-1980

Provided by ABILITY Magazine

SURVEY OF DISABILITIES

PERCENTAGE OF ADULTS WITH SIGNIFICANTLY
LIMITED FUNCTIONALITY



Others: Diabetics, Heart, Arthritis, Respiratory, Epilepsy, Speech

General Motors