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Subgroup/Office of Origin: Public Liaison

Series/Staff Member: Alexis Herman

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 2653

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Grievances with President and Administration

Stack:

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Grievances w/ Pres. & Admin.
Concerns

National Rainbow Coalition, Inc.

Amst

Reverend Jesse L. Jackson
President and Founder

*cc Steve
cc Flo
cc Ben J
cc RGM*

July 2, 1993

JUL - 5 1993

Ms. Alexis Herman
Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Alexis:

I called you three times this week but to no avail. Is the lack of response an administrative policy? I called you because of matters of great urgency and relevance. They include my observations in Libya, Tunisia and The Cameroons, the state of our urban policy, the crime rates in the streets of our country, and two Supreme Court decisions this week that bear directly on race discrimination in the work place and voting rights.

There is a growing sense that the administration does not view these matters as a priority.

If it is more convenient to respond in writing rather than by a telephone call, I appeal to you to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Jesse L. Jackson
Jesse L. Jackson

(AMH)

cc Steve
cc Amy B
cc Ben J
cc FLO

RR Complaint

To Show We Care -- 24 Hour Residential Emergency Shelter for
Victims of Domestic Violence and the Homeless

Reverend Mozell Fuller
Chairperson of the Board

Reverend Sidney R. Smith
President, Executive Director

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Washington, D.C. 20013
Shelter No. (202) 797-7460

Reverend Imagene B. Stewart
Founder, Vice Chairperson
(202) 512-2356 or 2357

Reverend Warren I. J
Resident Manager

7-19-93

JOINT CENTER FOR POLITICAL and ECONOMIC STUDIES:

DR. EDDIE N. WILLIAMS and my brother: June 1993 Vol. 21 No 6

IN REFERENCE TO YOUR ARTICLE ON ALEXIS HERMAN, DIRECTOR of the WHITE HOUSE'S OFFICE
OF PUBLIC LIAISON

YES, IT IS ONE THING TO TALK ABOUT DIVERSITY and ANOTHER
THING TO DO DIVERSITY WHICH ALEXIS IS NOT DOING IN REFERENCE
TO AFRICAN-AMERICANS.
OBVIOUSLY MY DEAR SISTER DOES NOT KNOW IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY
WE HAVE NATIONAL LEADERS IN THE MASONS, EASTERN STARS, SHILINERS,
DAUGHTERS OF ISIS, TENTS, ODDFELLOWS, ELKS, FISHERMAN and the REINDERS.
LET ME NOT LEAVE THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLERGY ASSN., STOREFRONT
MINISTERS OF AMERICA ETC.

I THOUGHT WITH CLINTON BEING PRESIDENT THE BLACK BOURGEOIS WOULD
FINALLY TAKE A SEAT AND LET THE BROTHERS and SISTERS IN THE TRENCHES
DOING THE REAL WORK BE HEARD.

WELL, THANKS TO SISTER ALEXIS WE GOT THE SHAFT, AGAIN.

Rev. Imagene Bigham Stewart

202-512-2356
57



Serving Those in Need

MAKING A DIFFERENCE TODAY FOR TOMORROW



FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: 7/21/93

TO: Ms. Alexis Herman

ORGANIZATION: The White House

PHONE: (202) 456-2930

FAX: (292) 456-2983

FROM: EDDIE N. WILLIAMS

DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

PHONE: 202-789-3510

FAX: (202) 789-6388

COMMENTS:

F.Y.I.

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: _____

CHARGE CODE: 102 ...

Important!

cc Steve
cc Ben Johnson

AMH



Democratic National Committee

cc Helen AA

FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

Important ... June 24

DATE:

Clevis Herman

4562983

TO:

SUBJECT:

Please Follow-up
Thanks

FROM:

Minyon Moore
Deputy Political Director
Director Constituency Outreach

If there are any problems receiving this transmission,
please call sender, (202) 863-7112

TO: ALEXIS HERMAN
FR: MINYON MOORE
DT: 6/25/93
RE: CLARENCE AVANT

Please be advised, I had a long discussion with Clarence Avant on yesterday. He is extremely disappointed in the way he has been treated by us and the White House. He spoke of receiving last minute phones calls inviting him to different events, his request to declare June as Black Music month -- which went ignored, the handling of the Lani Gunier situation and the perceived differences in the way White CEO's are treated.

I wanted to call your attention to this because after he finished expressing his frustration, he merely stated that he was just extremely hurt by the fact that he put so much time, money and energy into helping to elect the President and it appears African Americans are still being taken for granted.

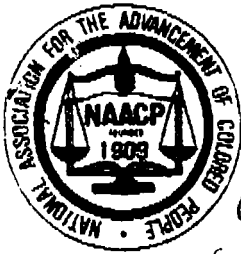
Alexis, this is a tall order, but is it possible to get him on the President's call sheet. Clarence invested so much into this administration and his political and financial clout runs deep and wide -- especially in CA. Is there anything that we can do to help repair this relationship?

We are trying to convince him to come to Monday's dinner. I'm not sure it is working? I will also be reaching out to Ernie Green and asking him to call.

Let's discuss...

CLARENCE AVANT...310/276-0523/OFF.

Minypt Post - PEG



LOUISIANA STATE CONFERENCE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

2828 JUBAN AVENUE • BATON ROUGE, LA 70805 • (504) 356-4840

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Ernest Johnson, Esq.
1st Vice President

Mrs. Eva Shanklin
Vice President-District I

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Treasurer

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Raphael Cassimere, Jr.
Parliamentarian

Ms. Sheila Williams
State Youth Advisor

Vincent Alexander
Member-at-large

Charles Brown, Sr.
Member-at-large

Ronald Alexander
Member-at-large

Alphonse Hall
Chaplain

TO: President William Clinton
First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of Energy Hazel O' Leary
Louisiana Democratic Party Chairman James Brady
Democratic National Committee Chairman David Wilhelm
Senator John Breaux
Senator J. Bennett Johnston
Congressman Cleo Fields
Congressman William Jefferson
Congressman Billy Tauzin
Congressman James Hayes

FROM: Louisiana State Conference NAACP and Louisiana's
African American Democrats and Friends of the
African American Community

* DATE: April 17, 1993

RE: Politically Motivated Removal of Attorney E. Faye
Williams as White House Liaison to the U.S.
Department of Energy

WHEREAS, on Sunday, March 14, 1993, we were proud to read
in the Baton Rouge Morning Advocate and other newspapers
around the state Faye Williams, a native daughter of
Louisiana, had been appointed to the top Louisianian at
the Department of Energy;

WHEREAS, Williams' appointment led us to believe the
Clinton White House and the Democratic Party were serious
about fairness to all its citizens and about "diversity"
since Williams is both a woman and an African American;

WHEREAS, we applauded her appointment because we know from
experience how hard she works to make a positive
difference in the lives of people who often cannot speak
for themselves;

WHEREAS, Williams has worked courageously against the
odds, has taken great personal risks and has made numerous
personal sacrifices to energize women and African American
voters in Louisiana and around the country;

WHEREAS, Williams is a loyal Democrat, an energetic worker and a strong, assertive and positive role model for the people of our state and our nation;

WHEREAS, one week after we celebrated the appointment by the White House of one of our best and our brightest, we were stunned by the news that she was ousted from her post "following a spate of telephone calls to the Louisiana Democratic Party headquarters from 20 unnamed callers, and after alleged expressions of dissatisfaction from various unnamed Democratic Party and political leaders from Louisiana's congressional delegation because they were not consulted about her appointment;

WHEREAS, Williams' removal leaves our state with no White House appointments of any race or sex;

WHEREAS, many of us have already been the beneficiaries of the outstanding work done by Williams through the years, and we are not pleased at the thought that any Democrat would so insult Louisiana's African American Democrats by taking any action to remove Williams from a position with such great potential for all the people of our state because of "political differences";

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Louisiana NAACP demands an immediate explanation in writing from you regarding the role you played, if any, in removing Williams from her position as White House Liaison, and an explanation of what steps you are taking to return her to government service. We, further, demand an end to any and all such harassment of African American citizens throughout this state.



Janney

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1993

JUN 17

MEMORANDUM FOR REGINA MONTTOYA

FROM: MARCIA HALE
DAWN FRIEDKIN

SUBJECT: SATELLITE INTO THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

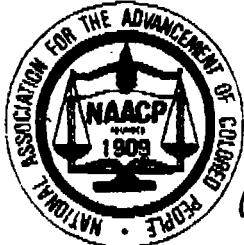
This is to confirm the President's participation in the above event. Your office will be listed as the staff contact.

date: Tuesday, June 22, 1993
time: 10:45 am - 11:05 am
location: OEOB 459
WH contact: Regina Montoya, Dave Anderson

CC:

Rahm Emanuel
Mark Gearan
David Gergen
Alexis Herman
Nancy Hernreich
Anthony Lake
Bruce Lindsey
Mack McLarty
Roy Neel
Bernie Nussbaum
Howard Paster
John Podesta
Jack Quinn
Carol Rasco
Bob Rubin
Eli Segal
George Stephanopoulos
Ann Stock
Christine Varney
David Watkins
Maggie Williams
Andrew Friendly
Katie Newell

Minypt Post - 1st



LOUISIANA STATE CONFERENCE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
2828 JUBAN AVENUE • BATON ROUGE, LA 70805 • (504) 356-4840

cc Steve Hill
cc Bruce Lindsey
cc B. Nussbaum
cc H. Paster

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Ronald Alexander
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Alphonse Hall
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TO: President William Clinton
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Handwritten signature

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1993

JUN 17 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR REGINA MONTOYA

FROM: MARCIA HALE
DAWN FRIEDKIN

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Roy Neel
Bernie Nussbaum
Howard Paster
John Podesta
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Carol Rasco
Bob Rubin
Eli Segal
George Stephanopoulos
Ann Stock
Christine Varney
David Watkins
Maggie Williams
Andrew Friendly
Katie Newell



NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Black Press of America



Lighting The Road To Freedom

June 8, 1993

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The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human and legal rights. Having no person, fearing no person, the Black Press strives to help every person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

In light of recent events that involved an African American appointee to your administration, we are extending another invitation to you to use our meeting to express your views about cultural diversity in your administration and equality among the races to the nation.

Your White House records will reveal that we initially extended you an invitation to speak before the 53rd Annual Convention of the National Newspaper Publishers Association on April 29, 1993. We hope that at this time, your senior staff members will see the benefit of your using this forum to speak to Black America, and its leadership.

We'd like to thank you for meeting with our Board of Directors on May 19, 1993. We hope that you will join us at the Sheraton Grande Hotel in Los Angeles at a time convenient to your schedule during the period from June 23rd to the 26th.

Sincerely,

Sonceria Messiah-Jiles

Sonceria Messiah-Jiles
First Vice President

*Maria Tico
brought
this in*

3200 13TH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20010
(202) 588-8764
FAX (202) 588-5029



NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Black Press of America



Lighting The Road To Freedom

OFFICERS

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President
Philadelphia Tribune
520 S. 18th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19146

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June 8, 1993

Ms. Mario Tio, Media Affairs
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Tio:

As you know the NNPA extended an invitation to President Clinton back on April 29, 1993, asking him to speak to our upcoming convention in Los Angeles, sometime during the period June 23rd to the 26th. Now with the recent events that have brought about questions across the nation regarding the White House's commitment to parity in its staffing, we hope that you can help us convey to decision-makers there the advantages of accepting this invitation and using our forum to speak to the nation about your plans and interactions with the African American community.

At the same time that black publishers from our organization are meeting in Los Angeles, so will be members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC). While both black leadership groups are in Los Angeles, we will hold combined meetings, surely this would be a good opportunity for the President to speak directly to African American leadership.

I would be pleased to meet with you to discuss how to make this event a success that can have broad national impact.

Sincerely,

William Reed

William Reed

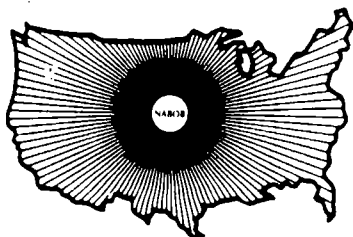
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Dept.	Media Aff. Fein	Phone #
Fax #		Fax #

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948 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20045

202/662-7324

FAX NO: 202/662 8725



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK OWNED BROADCASTERS

1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 412 • Washington, D.C. 20036 • (202) 463-8970 • FAX (202) 429-0657

*Sammy
+ 760*

July 2, 1993

JUL - 5 1993

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Television Representative

WASHINGTON OFFICE

JAMES L. WINSTON
Executive Director
and General Counsel

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Re: Federal Communications Commission

Dear Mr. President:

Twice in recent weeks, NABOB has written you to express our very real and grave concerns as to the status of minority ownership in the telecommunications industry and the impact of recent Federal Communications Commission (FCC) policies upon that ownership. We are writing now to request a meeting between you and a small group of NABOB representatives to discuss these matters.

In our June correspondence, we advised you of our concern that, once the name of Antoinette Cook was removed from consideration for the position of Chairman of the FCC, the Administration's search would revert to "business as usual" with the list of nominees consisting of "white males-only." Sadly, after your announcement of Reed Hundt, it appears that our fears were valid and realized. Although surely unintentional on your part, decisions such as the selection of Mr. Hundt perpetuate the perception that key government positions will remain firmly in the hands of an exclusive club.

Every day NABOB member stations continue to fight for survival in the Reagan/Bush created climate, which signaled to the industry that "it is alright to ignore the historical discrimination against minorities which resulted in our diminished economic position, because that's what being 'color blind' is all about."

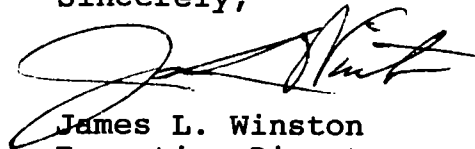
The Honorable Bill Clinton
July 2, 1993
Page Two

NABOB does not subscribe to the notion that the best way to overcome the vestiges of historic discrimination is to pretend that it never existed. It is important that the White House publicly embrace the concerns of minorities, rather than relegate us to the back seat, where we have been riding for 12 years. It will not be easy to overcome the communications industry's institutionalized hostility toward minorities fostered by the Reagan/Bush administrations. It is for that reason that we seek a reaffirmation of your commitment to an inclusive society through a meeting with NABOB representatives. Such a meeting will ensure that the industry at large recognizes that the White House considers African American broadcasters to be a necessary participant in creating the telecommunications "information highway" of which the Commission and the industry so proudly boast.

At the meeting we wish to discuss with you the general composition of the Commission, to review our request that a "minority impact study" be required of any major Commission action to determine the effect of any such action on minority ownership and communities, to require that major corporations holding FCC licenses be required to joint venture with minority owned companies, and to renew our request, which had been for a minority chairman, which we must now revise into an even more urgent request for the next available seat on the Commission.

We will be in contact with your office to follow-up on this request.

Sincerely,

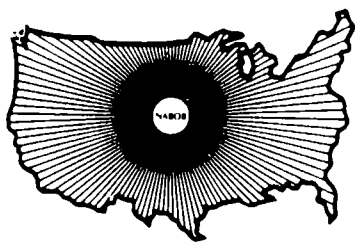


James L. Winston
Executive Director



Lois E. Wright, Esq.
Counsel to the Board

cc: Ms. Alexis Herman



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK OWNED BROADCASTERS

1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 412 • Washington, D.C. 20036 • (202) 463-8970 • FAX (202) 429-0657

Henry + Jo

July 2, 1993

JUL - 5 1993

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Regional Representative

MICHAEL L. CARTER,
Southwestern
Regional Representative

JOHN E. OXENDINE
Television Representative

WASHINGTON OFFICE

JAMES L. WINSTON
*Executive Director
and General Counsel*

The Honorable Albert Gore
Vice President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20006

Re: Federal Communications Commission

Dear Mr. Vice President:

During your tenure in the Senate, you supported the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters in several key legislative matters and attended one of our Annual Communications Awards Dinners. Therefore, we know that we are addressing this letter to a friend.

NABOB wrote the President twice in recent weeks urging that he nominate an African American as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. It has now been reported that the President has nominated Mr. Reed Hundt, a candidate whom you are supporting, to the position of Chairman.

Assuming that Mr. Hundt is confirmed by the Senate, it is obviously too late for NABOB to convince the President to nominate an African American to be Chairman. However, the conditions which necessitated our request continue.

You have been personally involved in the forefront of shaping the government's telecommunications policy for many years. Therefore, you more than most people know that the telecommunications industry is undergoing rapid technological change. Most of the members of NABOB are being left out of this rapid technological change. The companies with the resources needed to drive these technological changes tend to be major multi-billion

The Honorable Albert Gore
July 2, 1993
Page Two

dollar companies. In general, African Americans and other minority entrepreneurs do not have the financial resources to enter these new technologies. Therefore, it is important for the FCC to be cognizant of this problem and to foster regulatory policies and a regulatory climate in which non-minority companies will seek to joint venture with minority owned companies in these new technologies.

Minorities will only be included in these technologies when the industry is given a clear signal that such inclusion will be looked upon favorably by the FCC. In the brief period of time during which the industry anticipated that the next Chairman of the FCC would be Antoinette Cook, an African American, major industry companies began positioning African Americans in their companies into key positions to be ready to represent these companies with the new Chairman. Now that the new Chairman will not be a minority, many such efforts to reposition minorities have been stopped. No efforts to joint venture with minority owned companies appear to even be under consideration.

In short, if the business community does not believe that it needs to work with minorities to achieve its principal business objectives, minorities will be left in only token roles in the new telecommunications era. The much anticipated "information highway" is currently positioned to go right past the African American business community. We therefore urge you to take positive action to foster inclusion of minorities in the telecommunications revolution.

While a committed non-minority Chairman can help this effort, formal regulatory policies can only be of limited effectiveness. The status of the Chairman's office carries a significant amount of intangible weight which adds its own immeasurable influence on industry actions. A minority Chairman could couple enlightened policies with a clear minority presence. The nomination of an African American Chairman was the only truly effective way of accomplishing this.

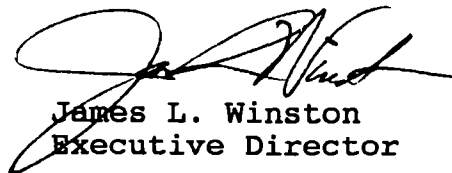
Now, we must look to Mr. Hundt to provide leadership in the area of minority involvement in the communications industry. We are confident that, if you are supporting him, Mr. Hundt is a fine candidate and will have a sensitivity to the issues we have raised in this letter. However, developing policies to address the issues we have raised here will be a major challenge for Mr. Hundt, and he will need a close working relationship with NABOB to develop those policies. He will also need another minority commissioner from whom he can obtain input and support.

The Honorable Albert Gore
July 2, 1993
Page Three

Therefore, we request a meeting with you so that we can share our views on the nomination of a minority commissioner and the issues which the FCC will have to address. We hope that by sharing our views with you, you will assist us in acquainting Mr. Hundt with the issues we have raised.

We will be in touch with your office to arrange a meeting with a delegation of six members of NABOB at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



James L. Winston
Executive Director



Lois E. Wright
Counsel to the Board

cc: Ms. Alexis Herman

AA
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 22, 1993

Alexis: is
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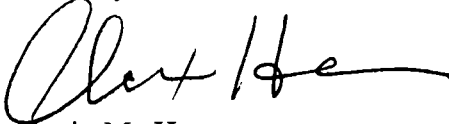
Mr. Pierre M. Sutton
Chair
National Association of
Black Owned Broadcasters
1730 M Street, NW
Suite 412
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Sutton:

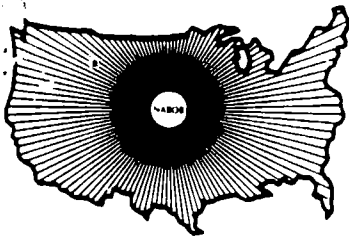
My office has received a copy of your letter to President Clinton regarding the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters' recommended candidates for Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. The Association's recommendations are greatly appreciated. Currently, the White House Office of Presidential Personnel is reviewing all recommendations including NABOB's submitted list.

Presidential Personnel will contact you regarding your recommendations. Again, thank you for your interest in the FCC. If I may be of assistance with any other matters of concern to NABOB, please feel free to be in touch with me.

Sincerely,



Alexis M. Herman
Assistant to the President
Director of the Office of Public Liaison



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK OWNED BROADCASTERS

1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 412 • Washington, D.C. 20036 • (202) 463-8970 • FAX (202) 429-0657

June 8, 1993

JUN - 9 1993

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JAMES L. WINSTON
Executive Director
and General Counsel

HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Re: Nomination of Chairman of the Federal
Communications Commission

Dear Mr. President:

On June 2, 1993, we wrote you expressing our great concern about the need to have an African American appointed as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. In that letter we advised you that we would be submitting a list of names of highly qualified candidates whom the Administration should consider for that position.

The following is a list of the candidates we recommend for consideration for the position:

William E. Kennard
Partner
Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson & Hand
901 15th Street, N.W.
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 371-6098

Debra L. Lee
Executive Vice President and
General Counsel
Black Entertainment Television
1232 31st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007
(202) 337-5260

The Honorable Bill Clinton
June 8, 1993
Page Two

Lois E. Wright
Vice President and Corporate Counsel
Inner City Broadcasting Corporation
801 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10017
(212) 878-1558

Maurita K. Coley
Vice President of Legal Affairs
Black Entertainment Television
1232 31st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007
(202) 337-5260

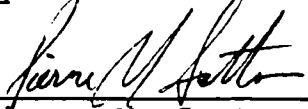
James L. Winston
Partner
Rubin, Winston, Diercks, Harris & Cooke
1730 M Street, N.W.
Suite 412
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 861-0870

All of these individuals have many years of high level experience and expertise in the communications industry and should be given serious consideration for the position of Chairman of the FCC. We will be in touch with the White House Office of Personnel to follow up on this matter. We look forward to working with you as the appointment process continues.

Sincerely,

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK
OWNED BROADCASTERS, INC.

By Its Chairman:



Pierre M. Sutton
Chairman and CEO
INNER CITY BROADCASTING CORPORATION

PMS/kn
cc: White House Office of Personnel



make first

1237 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd., SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30310
(404) 758-9590

May 13, 1993

MAY 20 1993

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

On behalf of the National Black Women's Health Project (NBWHP) and its 150 chapters across the country, we applaud and support the deletion of the discriminatory provisions in your FY 1994 budget which impact on all women and their families dependent on the federal government for their health care. For too long a two-tier system of reproductive health services has existed which has disproportionately affected poor women.

Over 32 million Americans are eligible for government-supported health care under the Medicaid program. The enactment of the Hyde Amendment, which cut off federal funds for abortion except where the woman's life was endangered, sent a message to the states that it was permissible to deny payment for poor women's abortion. Poor women, especially Black women, have been the subject of discrimination under the Hyde Amendment.

While we are heartened that you are taking steps to remove the prohibition on federal funding for abortions, **we are strongly opposed** to your position allowing states to opt out of following the national standard. Prior to the Hyde Amendment, the law required that all "medically necessary" care be provided by doctors and hospital be covered as a condition for the state to participate in the program. States could not pick and choose which services to cover.

We believe equity demands a return to that policy under which abortion services were treated like all other procedures and mandated as a part of required coverage by the states. Presently allowing states to opt out means women in only 13 states receive funded abortions. It is crucial that the resumption of funding not be predicated on the state in which the medicaid recipient lives.

The federal government has played a substantial role in influencing and limiting poor women's choices by funding only prenatal care and sterilization, but not abortion. The punitive policies and practices being proposed regarding poor women such as in welfare reform and in the coercive use of new contraceptive technology, combined with the restrictions to abortion illustrate the continuing attacks on poor women's ability: 1) to regulate their fertility, 2) to control their reproductive destinies, and 3) ultimately, to improve the quality of their lives.

2
AHS

Reproductive choice impacts all the choices we make in all areas of our lives. When we step back and look at what's happening with our community with the absence of choices we witness the realities of poor women's lives --having children they cannot care for or afford, children who are not given the emotional, spiritual and financial support they need, a rise in teenage pregnancy, welfare, drug usage, crime, and death.

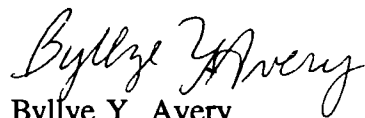
Until poor women have the same basic rights as other women to determine if, when, and under what circumstances they will bear children; they will not be able to take advantage of the other "hard fought for and won" rights in education, employment, and housing. Perhaps even more importantly, until poor women can be guaranteed these rights and the ability to exercise them, every women is in jeopardy of losing the rights they now enjoy.

While we support your efforts to establish a health care system that will be universally available for all Americans the new system must provide comprehensive health care for women in the basic benefits package including contraception and abortion. To exclude abortion services from a universal health care system would further stigmatize women who have abortions and the health care workers who provide abortions.

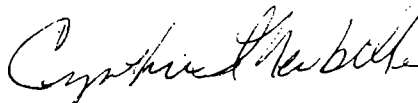
We strongly urge you to continue your strong leadership on these issues and to restore full and fair funding for abortions to all those who depend on federal dollars for their health care. Our government must assure a policy of non-discrimination in the childbearing choices of women.

Our members pledge to work with you to ensure that Congress does not add restrictions that will deny some women an equal opportunity to exercise their constitutional right to choose whether or not to terminate a pregnancy.

Sincerely,



Byllye Y. Avery
Founding President



Cynthia I. Newbille
Executive Director

cc: Alexis Herman

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Miller



Congressional Black Caucus Congress of the United States

H2-344 House Annex #2

The Ford Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

202 — 226-7790

JUN - 9-1993

June 9, 1993

~~The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton~~
~~President of the United States~~
~~The White House~~
~~Washington, DC 20500~~

Dear Mr. President:

The members of the Congressional Black Caucus have asked me to express our strongest opposition to current negotiations surrounding budget reconciliation and proposals which call for significant cuts in programs impacting the nation's poor, middle class and the elderly.

We urge you to maintain the key elements of the original economic plan pertaining to entitlement and jobs creation programs, and restate our firm opposition to capping entitlement spending and triggering automatic sequestration. Additionally, we view as non-negotiable the expanded Earned Income Tax Credit as reported by the House Ways and Means Committee; the summer youth jobs program and the targeting of the hard-core unemployed passed by the House; and full funding for the Mickey Leland Childhood Hunger Prevention Act which provides for food stamps and feeds the poorest families. We are deeply concerned about proposed modifications in Medicare and Medicaid spending and the Family Preservation Act as well as attempts to further reduce the Low-Income Housing Energy Assistance Program, Small Business Administration loan guarantees, and newly-created empowerment zones.

Many of our constituents were left behind and neglected by two previous administrations. They cannot be expected to bear the brunt of deficit reduction alone. We will not support a reconciliation package that shifts the burden from the wealthiest Americans and corporations to the disadvantaged. Senate negotiations incorporating the aforementioned proposals significantly imperil the prospect of passage of the economic plan in the House.

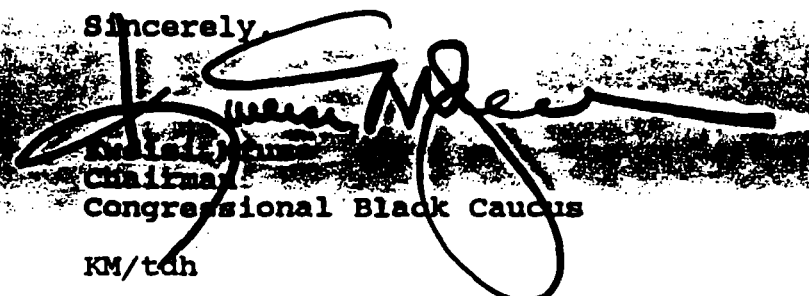
U.S. House of Representatives
John Conyers, Jr., MI '65
William Clay, MO '69
Louis Stokes, OH '69
Ronald V. Dellums, CA '71
Charles B. Rangel, NY '71
Cardiss Collins, IL '73
Harold E. Ford, TN '75
Julian C. Dixon, CA '79
Major R. Owens, NY '83
Edolphus Towns, NY '83
Alan Wheat, MO '83
Mike Espy, MS '87
Floyd Flake, NY '87
John Lewis, GA '87
Kweisi Mfume, MD '87
Donald M. Payne, NJ '89
Craig A. Washington, TX '90
Barbara-Rose Collins, MI '91
Gary Franks, CT '91
Eleanor Holmes-Norton, DC '91
William Jefferson, LA '91
Maxine Waters, CA '91
Laden Watson, PA '91
Eva Clayton, NC '91
Sanford Bishop, GA '93
Caroline Brown, FL '93
Joe Clyburn, SC '93
Charles Stenholm, TX '93
Alton S. Scott, VA '93
Ella Williams, IL '93
Roderick H. Davis, IL '93
Robert Scott, VA '93
Walter Tucker, CA '93
Melvin Watt, NC '93
Albert Wynn, MD '93

U.S. Senate
Carol Moseley Braun, IL '93

President Clinton
June 9, 1993
Page 2

We have attempted to support the original principles of the Clinton Economic Plan, however, we cannot support a move away from commitments to disadvantaged Americans. We are expressing today these same concerns to the leadership of the House and Senate.

Sincerely,



Ernest M. Scott
Chairman
Congressional Black Caucus

KM/tdh

cc: Honorable George Mitchell
Honorable Thomas S. Foley

