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The American Legion

★ WASHINGTON OFFICE ★ 1608 "K" STREET, N. W. ★ WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006 ★
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OFFICE OF THE
NATIONAL COMMANDER

May 28, 1998

Honorable William J. Clinton
President of The United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The American Legion encourages you to reconsider your support for H.R. 2400, the Building Efficient Surface Transportation and Equity Act of 1998 and either veto the measure or strike those sections that mandate the denial of veterans claims for tobacco-related illnesses and call for the savings to be used for transportation and other projects.

It is unfortunate that Congress and your administration are willing to rescind a benefit for disabled veterans and redirect veterans' monies to pay for highways and mass transit. This is especially disturbing since there will be a \$39 billion surplus as announced by you in the Rose Garden ceremony Tuesday.

We ask that you, as Commander and Chief, be ever mindful that a government which cuts benefits for disabled veterans, relinquishes the right to ask its citizens to serve in the armed forces to protect the country. This is especially true when that government shares responsibility for their service-connected disabilities or illnesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony G. Jordan".

Anthony G. Jordan
National Commander

MAY 29 1998