

Elizabeth -  
Can you tell  
JRU/HHS to do this?  
Thanks -  
BR

- **India Textiles:** On January 6, the panel examining the consistency of a US textile restraint measure on imports of wool shirts from India will issue its final report.

can - Poms file

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**New Drug Approvals:** New drugs are approved faster in the U.S. than in the EU, according to new international data. An examination of 15 new drugs approved by the FDA and the EU shows that the median time for FDA review and marketing approval is 5.8 months, while the median time for authorization for a company to sell those drugs in Europe is 12.2 months. In 11 instances, the drugs were first approved in the U.S., compared to four cases when they were approved first by the EU.

- **Teen Marijuana and Tobacco Use:** On December 19, Secretary Shalala, General McCaffrey, Secretary Riley, and Secretary Pena announced the annual "Monitoring the Future" survey, which shows an increase in marijuana and tobacco use among eighth and tenth graders between 1995 and 1996. Use of these substances leveled off among twelfth graders, according to the report. The survey also showed increases in the use of alcohol by eighth graders.
- **Flu Vaccine:** On December 17, FDA and CDC advised that health care professionals may want to consider reimmunization for some high-risk individuals who received a flu vaccine recalled because of decreased potency in one viral strain. About 5% to 7% of all people who have received the 1996-1997 influenza vaccine received doses with decreased potency. FDA, CDC, and the company have sent notices to health care professionals and state public health departments so they may evaluate whether their patients should be reimmunized.
- **Blood Center:** On December 16, the New York Blood Center (NYBC) and three of its officers agreed in a consent decree with FDA and the DOJ to a series of measures aimed at ensuring the integrity of center's blood and blood-products operations. NYBC has agreed to make a wide range of improvements to ensure compliance with FDA requirements.
- **Welfare Medicaid Provisions:** On December 20, HHS may release new implementing instructions in the State Medicaid Manual interpreting the Medicaid provisions of the new welfare law.

met with her several times, and think she's terrific. Your Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS will meet in Washington this week and make two major recommendations: 1) that you should call for increased investment in research to enable the development of an AIDS vaccine by a date certain (probably within a decade); and 2) that Secretary Shalala should certify that needle exchange programs reduce the spread of HIV and do not increase drug use. The first recommendation is good news, and may help us overcome NIH's steadfast resistance to letting us earmark more resources for vaccine research or specify a target date. On needle exchange, we'll have to proceed more carefully.

**4. Seat Belts and NEXTEA:** The Transportation Department has completed a report on measures to increase seat belt use toward a new national goal of 85% by the year 2000, but we need your sign-off on a key proposal. In most states, seat belt laws are enforced only when a driver is stopped for some other reason. But 11 states and D.C. have adopted primary seat belt laws, which allow for ticketing solely for failure to use a seat belt. Belt use in these states is 15% higher than in states with secondary enforcement laws. NHTSA estimates that enactment of primary belt laws by the remaining 39 states would save 1,800 lives a year.

The NEXTEA bill you announced March 12 includes financial incentives (grants) for states to adopt primary belt laws. Secretary Slater would like to send Congress a new safety title for NEXTEA to strengthen states' incentive by adding a "soft sanction": States that do not pass primary laws or achieve 85% belt use by October 2002 would have to transfer 1.5% of their federal highway funds into their highway safety programs.

*Agree* The NGA opposes this proposal, as do the National Motorists Association, individual liberties groups, and some conservative and western members of Congress. A broad coalition of automakers, insurance companies, safety advocates, and law enforcement will support it. DOT believes the proposal has a good chance of congressional approval, in the wake of increased public outcry over airbags and attention to the importance of seat belts. Gene and I both recommend that you support Secretary Slater's proposal.

**5. Tobacco:** Federal Judge William Osteen in North Carolina has indicated he will not issue a decision on FDA's tobacco rule before April 14, but we expect him to issue his decision that day or shortly thereafter. Three general outcomes are possible: 1) the court upholds the rule; 2) the court rules that FDA has jurisdiction, but that portions or all of the rule are invalid; or 3) the court rules against FDA jurisdiction and the rule. We have worked with HHS, Justice, and other White House offices to prepare statements for each of these scenarios so you and others will be able to respond quickly to the decision. The Justice Department will review the decision immediately. If the decision is not completely favorable, we expect to be prepared to announce later that same day the Administration's intent to appeal. We are also working with the departments to prepare new policies you could announce within days or weeks after the decision to ensure further progress on tobacco as the FDA rule moves through the appeals process.

**6. California Testing Feud:** A few days after Delaine Eastin and 240 business leaders endorsed our testing initiative, the head of the California Board of Education (a Wilson appointee) wrote Secretary Riley contending that the state legislature would have to pass a new



Elizabeth Drye

04/04/97 10:53:26 AM



Record Type: Record

To: Leanne A. Shimabukuro/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: Weekly

DOT is ready to deliver to the White House a report you requested on measures to increase seat belt use, but is seeking your approval of a key policy proposal. The report will set an ambitious national goal for belt use (85% by 2000). To reach the goal, DOT is proposing, among other things, that the Administration send legislation to Congress giving states a stronger incentive to pass primary seat belt laws (i.e. laws that allow for ticketing solely for failure to use a seat belt). The NEXTEA bill you announced March 12 includes financial incentives (grants) for states to adopt primary seat belt laws. The new proposal would add a "soft sanction" -- states that do not pass primary laws or achieve 85% belt use by October, 2002, would have 1.5% of their federal highway funds (3% in subsequent years) transferred into their highway safety programs.

The proposal is likely to be effective, since primary belt laws significantly increase belt use and sanctions have effectively moved states to pass transportation safety laws (e.g. zero tolerance laws). Eleven states and DC already have primary seat belt laws, covering a third of all Americans. Belt use in these states is 15% higher than in states with secondary enforcement laws. NHTSA estimates that enactment of a primary law by the remaining 39 states would save 1,800 lives in the first year alone.

The NGA and the governors' safety offices oppose the proposal (Governors Voinovich and Bob Miller sent a letter to Frank Raines) as they have opposed other sanctions. The National Motorists Association (the strongest advocate for repealing the speed limit sanction), individual liberties groups, and conservative and western Members of Congress who allied to repeal sanctions in 1995 are also expected to oppose it. A broad coalition will support the proposal, including auto manufacturers, insurance companies, safety advocates, health groups, law enforcement officials, and the National Urban League. DOT believes the proposal has a very good chance of getting congressional approval, particularly because the air bag issue has focused public attention on the importance of seat belts.

Given your and Secretary Slater's commitment to improving auto safety and the expected benefits to the proposal, I recommend you support it.

☐ Approve ☐ Disapprove

before 4/13/97

CLOSE HOLD

this is a  
gd deal -

**SCHEDULE PROPOSAL**

**DATE:** March 14, 1997

Maybe  
WRC

and do

maybe

☐ **ACCEPT**

☐ **REGRET**

☐ **PENDING**

**TO:** Anne Hawley  
Stephanie Street

**FROM:** Bruce Reed  
Kitty Higgins

**REQUEST:** To unveil the Administration's Report on Human Radiation Experiments, "Building Public Trust: Actions to Respond to the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments," and announce two new actions by the President on this issue.

**PURPOSE:** This event would highlight the steps the Administration will be taking to address the issues surrounding human radiation experiments. Specifically, the President would sign a Directive strengthening protections for human subjects participating in classified research and requiring agencies to disclose the number of secret research projects they have underway. The President would also announce new legislation to better compensate uranium miners.

**BACKGROUND:** In January, 1994 the President established the Advisory Committee on human Radiation Experiments (ACHRE) to examine reports that the government had funded and conducted unethical human radiation experiments during the Cold War. The President received the Committee's findings at an October 6, 1995 event

This report presents the Administration's total response to the Committee's findings, including our record to date on the issue of human radiation experiments and several new actions the President will take.

Note: If the President does not participate in this event, the Secretaries of Energy, HHS, and others would release the report at the White House and then brief reporters in the White House Press Briefing Room.

**DATE AND TIME:** sometime in March, 1997

**DURATION:** 20 minutes

**LOCATION:** Oval Office

**PARTICIPANTS:** POTUS  
Secretary Pena  
Secretary Shalala  
Former Secretary O'Leary  
Advisory Council Members (Optional)  
Members of Congress (Optional)

**OUTLINE OF  
EVENTS:** The President could receive the report from the relevant Cabinet  
Secretaries in the Oval Office, make a brief statement, and then sign the  
directive at his desk.

**REMARKS  
REQUIRED:** Yes

**MEDIA  
COVERAGE:** Pool Spray.

**RECOMMENDED  
BY:** Bruce Reed

**CONTACT:** Christa Robinson, x6-5165

CM -

cc: Kagan, Jennings, Burke, Dye, Rice  
+ return

82

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
3/3/97

March 1, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRUCE REED *BR/eh*

SUBJECT: DPC WEEKLY REPORT

*X*  
*good* **Handgun Safety Lock Directive:** A key provision in your Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Bill requires all Federally-licensed gun dealers to sell a safety locking device with every handgun. (A 1991 GAO study found that such devices could prevent one-third of all deaths resulting from accidental shootings.) To focus attention on this issue, we are preparing a directive that would require agencies to provide safety locks to all federal law enforcement officers, so that the officers can protect their children against accidental shootings. This directive would make the Federal government a model for the nation in promoting use of safety locks.

*good* **Seat Belt Study:** The Department of Transportation will give you a report on March 10 on ways to increase seat belt use. Increasing belt use by only 15 percentage points -- from 68% to 83% -- would save over 2000 lives each year. DOT's report is likely to urge you to: offer financial incentives to states, consistent with our budget proposal, to improve and enforce seat belt laws; set an ambitious national goal for seatbelt use; and challenge the private sector to fund passenger safety education. DOT is working to get some private sector commitments now, so that you can announce them when you accept the recommendations contained in the report.

*OK* **Patients' Bill of Rights/Quality Commission:** We will be ready soon -- probably around March 10 -- to announce the members of the Advisory Commission on Quality and Consumer Protection in the Health Care Industry, which you will charge with developing a Patients' Bill of Rights. We can combine announcement of the Commission with the release of an HHS regulation that would guarantee an expedited appeal whenever a plan proposes to deny care that a Medicare patient believes is urgently needed.

*good* **Medicare Fraud Legislation:** HHS and DOJ jointly announced on February 25 a settlement agreement requiring a laboratory operation that had committed massive medicare fraud to pay \$300 million to the government. The settlement brought to over \$800 million the total amount recovered by Operation Labscam, a joint investigation of Medicare fraud undertaken by the two departments. These aggressive enforcement efforts prepare the way for a legislative proposal on medicare fraud that we could unveil as early as the week of March 10. This proposal, which we are currently working with HHS to finalize, would give the government new tools to go after Medicare fraud by requiring certain suppliers of health care services to provide identification numbers and to post bonds. We could announce this initiative in a radio address when you travel to Florida in the middle of March; alternatively, we could focus then on our children's initiative,

which would greatly assist Florida's efforts to expand coverage for children.

 **Child Support Enforcement:** HHS will soon be ready to submit to Congress a report required under the new welfare law recommending an incentive funding system, based on program performance, for state child support enforcement programs. The report recommends that incentive payments hinge on state performance in five areas: establishment of paternity, establishment of child support orders, collections on current child support due, collections on past child support due, and cost effectiveness. We can couple submission of this report with the release of new state-by-state data showing that child support collections have increased by more than 50% over the last four years.

## Clinton Budget Calls for Welfare Law To Be Revised to Aid Legal Immigrants

By CHRISTOPHER GEORGES  
And DANA MILBANK

Staff Reporters of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL  
WASHINGTON — President Clinton's new budget will call for reopening the welfare law to restore funding for legal immigrants, according to a draft of the document's welfare portion.

Vice President Al Gore seemed to suggest something different yesterday when he told governors that restoring some federal funding for legal immigrants "can be addressed without, quote, opening up welfare reform, end quote." Last year's landmark welfare-reform bill cut funding for legal immigrants by \$27 billion over six years.

Yet, White House aides explained that Mr. Gore, as well as the president, doesn't believe the legal-immigrant funding cuts included in the bill are welfare reform. Instead, they are "budget cuts tacked on to the bill," said Bruce Reed, a senior White House policy aide.

The president's budget, which will be presented to Congress later this week, "proposes to revise the [welfare] law so that legal immigrants who become disabled after entering the country can get Supplemental Security Income and Medicaid," according to a recent draft of the document.

The issue of "reopening" the bill is important because Republicans don't want to seem to be acknowledging that the popular measure is flawed. GOP congressional leaders have repeatedly insisted that the welfare bill not be reopened. Instead they, along with most Republican governors, have said that changes could be made but that they should be done in other ways, such as through separate budget measures.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott reiterated that position yesterday, speaking to the National Governors' Association meeting here. "We're talking about a substantial amount of money," the Mississippi Republican said. He promised to work with the governors but insisted there would

be no rewriting of the welfare law. "You open up that barn door," he said, "there will be a lot of horses running out."

Mr. Lott urged the governors to use funds saved from other programs to assist the immigrants. Because of declining welfare caseloads, most states currently have a surplus of welfare funds.

After President Clinton addressed the governors earlier in the day, White House spokesman Michael McCurry said that there would be no "wholesale rewriting" of the law but that the president would introduce "specific remedies" for immigrants.

Hinting at a departure from the budget wars of recent years, Mr. Lott also told the governors that Congress would give serious consideration to President Clinton's budget for fiscal 1998, which begins Oct. 1. "We're not going to pronounce it dead on arrival," he said. "We're just going to roll up our sleeves and say, 'Mr. President, let's get to work.'"

Sen. Lott and Speaker Newt Gingrich (R., Ga.) said yesterday they want to begin discussions quickly with the president on a "common agenda" for legislative action this year. In a letter sent to Mr. Clinton, the GOP leaders outlined five issues on which bipartisan agreement is possible: At the top of the list is balancing the budget by 2002; second is tax relief.

A spokeswoman for the speaker said the GOP leadership doesn't envision immediate budget negotiations with the president. But a high-level meeting could put the budget on a fast track this year.

Rep. Gingrich and Sen. Lott proposed to meet with Mr. Clinton tomorrow, but a White House official said the meeting would most likely take place next Tuesday.

The other areas for potential cooperation are improving education, curbing drug abuse and crime, and cleaning up toxic waste.

—Greg Hitt  
contributed to this article.

## Clinton Issues Rule On Poultry Safety, Stunning Critics

By BRUCE INGERSOLL

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration stunned consumer advocates by issuing a final food-safety rule that requires poultry inspectors to check only a few birds for fecal contamination at the end of production lines.

In a terse 11th-hour news release, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman touted the new rule as codifying and "strengthening" the Agriculture Department's so-called zero-tolerance policy on visible fecal matter on poultry. The rule says that contaminated birds won't be "allowed to enter" chilling tanks at the end of processing lines, because the water could spread bacterial contaminants to other birds.

No department officials could be reached last night to explain how the rule would be enforced.

But Kenneth May, a consultant to the National Broiler Council, said that twice each eight-hour shift, government inspectors will examine a 10-bird sample for fecal contamination to ensure that plant inspectors are catching contaminated birds before they go into the chilling tanks, and that the plant is operating in compliance with government regulations.

Consumer advocates and union leaders were taken aback by Mr. Glickman's announcement and by the limited amount of end-of-the-line sampling.

"We've got plants producing 67,000 birds per shift, and they are going to sample only 20 birds per shift," said David Carney, chairman of the National Joint Council of Food Inspection Locals. "It sounds to me like this zero-tolerance rule is a big smoke screen."

That sampling rate is "about as low as you can go, and still call it sampling," said Caroline Smith deWaal, food safety director for the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

Bleed UP

What's  
the deal here?

Should we be  
concerned

Yes

Orig: CHR

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

6.16.96

CC: JB-A

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Edy.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

96 JUN 7 P2:52

May 31, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

From: Carol H. Rasco

Subject: Weekly Report: May 25 - May 31, 1996

## UPDATE ON KEY INITIATIVES

### SOCIAL POLICY

Parental Rights and Responsibility Act -- Senate Judiciary Committee mark-up of this legislation is now likely within the next two weeks. This bill would provide parents the right to sue in federal court if government "interferes with or usurps" their rights as parents. It is designed to appeal to conservatives who disagree with school curricula and have problems with school policies on counseling and discipline. The DPC and the Counsel's office have been working with the Department of Education to develop a proactive response designed to obviate the need for legislation. This is the same strategy used in the religious liberty debate last year. We are meeting with interest groups next week and may then consult with Democrats on the Hill.

### ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

New York - New Jersey Dredging -- Inadequate dredging in the Port of New York-New Jersey may threaten the region's economic health. The governors of the two states and unions, environmentalists, business, and Federal agencies have been engaged in a visible and difficult debate about how to solve the problem. The principle impediment to adequate dredging is concern over environmental impacts of the dredged material. CEQ and DPC have worked with OMB, NEC, and the principal agencies and are recommending an initiative that will make clear that the Federal government is doing its part to solve the problem. At the same time, the initiative will make clear that the States must make difficult decisions before dredging can move forward. We are working with Harold Ickes to move the issue forward with the goal of an announcement before the June 11 markup of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).

Follow-up to Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments --

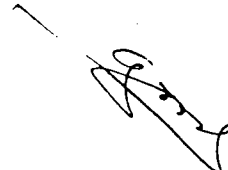
At Phil Caplan's suggestion, DPC staff are working with the Interagency Working Group on Human Radiation Experiments to develop a formal Administration response to the Advisory Commission's recommendations by late summer. Agencies are already implementing some recommendations. Our goal is to resolve outstanding issues and prepare a comprehensive response to the report. DPC staff met this week with the Advisory Committee Chair, Dr. Ruth Faden, and with the Defense Department. We have scheduled a discussion with the Interagency Working Group for June 6.

## **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

STOP Grants -- Last Friday, Department of Justice announced release of \$130 million of STOP grants to combat domestic violence under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Grant money went to each state. 

COPS -- The Department of Justice COPS office is ready to announce community policing grants to combat domestic violence. These grants received an enormous response from local law enforcement agencies, with over 800 grant applications received. There are currently internal discussions occurring on how to make the announcement.

## **EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES**



### **TRAVEL**

Wednesday, I participated in the Summit '96 National Women's Business Council's Economic Summit at Northwestern University's Allen Center in Evanston, Illinois; I delivered the keynote address at the opening plenary and led a roundtable discussion.

Thursday, I attended the National Summit on Teacher Preparation Conference in New York City.

7-29-96

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

96 JUL 23 P4:40

July 23, 1996

JUL 29 1996

## MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

From: Carol H. Rasco

Subject: Weekly Report: July 13 - July 19, 1996

## UPDATES ON KEY INITIATIVES

## FAMILY FRIENDLY WORKPLACES



Follow-up to Family Reunion -- At the Vice President's Family Reunion, the President signed a Memorandum to Agency Heads directing them to review their plans to make their workplaces family friendly and to report to the DPC within 120 days on their progress. We have been working with the Vice President's Office to ensure follow-up to that Memorandum. We met this week with Jim King of OPM, Faith Wohl of GSA, and other key staff to develop working plans for follow-up. We will be scheduling a meeting of the Domestic Policy Council in September on this topic.

## HEALTH CARE

MSA Discussions -- Closure on Kassebaum/Kennedy may be imminent. Staff discussions on the design and structure of medical savings accounts are proceeding extremely well. Assuming that we have closure in the next 48 hours on this issue, staff will need to review the rest of the health insurance reform legislation to ensure that other issues of concern are addressed. In particular, staff would hope the compromise language: (1) retains mental health parity for lifetime and annual caps; (2) provides adequate individual market protections; (3) removes a provision directing HHS and Justice to publish advisory opinions on provider activities that constitute fraud; and (4) ensures that sufficient disclosure protections exist for consumers of Medigap insurance. Staff also need to review the bill for technical drafting concerns. We hope to have closure on the entire bill this week.

## CHILD WELFARE

Discussion Series -- On Thursday, we held the first of what will be several small discussion sessions on the state of the country's child welfare system. We brought in experts from around the country drawn from the legal, academic, advocacy, practitioner, and think tank communities to share with us their views on the problems within the child welfare system and what role the federal government should play in addressing those

problems. Over the next few months we are planning to meet with several more groups and begin to craft a comprehensive definition of the problems and set of policy solutions to address the problems.

Participants Thursday were Marylee Allen of the Children's Defense Fund; Conna Craig of the Institute for Children; Kathleen Feely of the Casey Foundation; Mark Hardin of the Child Welfare ABA Center on Children and the Law; Dr. Alfred Kahn of Columbia University School of Social Work; Jane Spinak of the Juvenile Rights Division/Legal Aid Society; and representatives from the DPC, OMB, and HHS.

#### **HIV/AIDS**

Grandmothers Project -- The AIDS Policy Office has launched an effort to address the issue of guardians for children of parents infected with AIDS. Grandmothers are most often caregivers for children, but face obstacles to establishing custody. As a result, children may unnecessarily be placed in foster care. Our goals are to help ensure parents with AIDS can arrange for the orderly and legal transfer of custody.

#### **ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

Pesticide/Food Safety Legislation -- The House voted unanimously today to pass legislation reforming the way we regulate pesticide residues in food. The bipartisan bill -- crafted by Congressmen Dingell, Waxman, and Bliley -- repeals the Delaney Clause for pesticides and establishes a uniform, strong health-based standard. The legislation is very close to your proposal, and the Vice President issued a statement July 17th that "The Committee bill meets goals President Clinton set forth early in his Administration" including "enhanced protections for infants and children." Given the fragile nature of the agreement, the bill's sponsors are seeking to move it quickly through the Senate. DPC is working with CEQ and Legislative Affairs to shepherd the bill forward.

Human Radiation Experiments: The Interagency Working Group on human radiation experiments has recommended the President issue an Executive Order addressing informed consent in classified research. DPC will work with HHS to prepare a draft.

Kisatchie National Forest: DPC staff, along with OMB and the relevant agencies, are working to resolve whether the Administration should support legislation that would transfer land in the Kisatchie national forest in Louisiana to the Army for training purposes (as opposed to proceeding administratively). The issue is, in part, whether the legislation would waive the normal environmental decision-making process to the possible detriment of local property owners. There has been significant local press on this issue--mostly opposed to the legislation.

Yucca Mountain Interim Storage: The cloture vote on interim storage of radioactive waste in Nevada is planned for Thursday. White House offices, EPA, and DOE are working to contact Senators to urge their vote in support of the President's position.

New York / New Jersey Dredging: After intense discussions with the New Jersey delegation, a consensus with environmental and economic interests looks possible. Harold Ickes met with members of the delegation and environmentalists Thursday to help bring the issues to a close. We have little room, however, to compromise the few remaining issues; but we are continuing to look for solutions.

## **EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES**

### **MEETINGS**

Wednesday, I was the keynote speaker at the Effective Employment Strategies for Individuals with Disabilities Conference that took place here in Washington, DC. I also attended the Partnership Steering Committee Meeting and attended the Women's Leadership Forum reception.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
December 28, 1996  
WASHINGTON

cc: Neuf  
Pres. word. w/ Gence  
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
12/30/96

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: TODD STERN  
HELEN HOWELL

SUBJECT: Recent Information Items

We are forwarding the following recent information items:

(A) **Don Ernst memo on D.C. schools initiative.** Ernst urges a presidential effort to coordinate the improvement and renewal of the D.C. public schools and he offers his help, for example, in bringing together representatives of major educational organizations to explore the human and other resources they might contribute to help address D.C.'s problems.

(B) **"More Benefits, Fewer Burdens" -- OMB's report to the President on reforming our regulatory system.** From Sally Katzen and Frank Raines. This sixty-page, glossy report documents efforts made by the Administration to carry out the Executive Order (no. 12866) that you signed in September 1993 entitled "Regulatory Planning and Review." The Report has chapters on "Developing Better Regulations," "Reinventing Existing Regulations," and "Changing the Culture of the Regulatory System." We've included the introductory letter from Frank and Sally to you. Let us know if you want to see the whole report.

(C) **Letter from Dr. Henry Foster.** Raises three issues. First, he urges that universal access to perinatal services be our next incremental health care goal. He says U.S. is only industrialized country that fails to provide universal care to pregnant women and unborn, and roughly estimates that we could do this for about \$2.8 billion/year. Second, he urges that "superlative day-care services" are an integral part of welfare reform, especially important for purposes of stimulating infants and enhancing their speech development. Third, he advocates revisiting the idea of special schools exclusively structured for teenagers for whom parenthood is imminent -- though he sees this not as an Administration initiative, but as something that should be a local option. Finally, he reminds you that you have an unfinished golf date.

(D) **"Latinos in California: the Next Italians," The Economist, December 14.** Via Sec. Cisneros. The article concerns the movement of Latinos into the middle-class in California and, as Henry says, "the burgeoning political force Latinos represent." He believes this development "has great significance for your work."



Washington DC 20201

DETERMINED TO BE AN  
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING  
INITIALS: RLP DATE: 11/21/13

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12-30-96

96 DEC 24 AM 6:50

Personal and confidential

December 14, 1996

William Jefferson Clinton  
President, the United States of America  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

First and foremost, congratulations on your decisive election victory. The hard work and commitment of so many has been rewarded and the American people will be the beneficiaries.

Hopefully, you have received a copy of the annual report I prepared for you regarding my function as your Senior Advisor on Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Youth Issues. It provides an overview of the activities conducted during the past year.

By writing you this personal correspondence, I have three policy issues that I wish to present briefly for your consideration. In preparing this note, I've kept in mind what Mark Twain once told a friend which was, "If I had had more time I would have written a shorter letter." Hence, I've taken the extra time in an effort to be succinct.

The first issue is one upon which I urge your most deliberate consideration. It is my assessment that legislative changes toward health care reform for now are very likely to be incremental. Given this I would strongly urge that universal access to perinatal services be this administration's next goal with respect to health care implementation policy. Being an obstetrician/gynecologist, perhaps I can't be totally objective, but I am certain that this is the correct move--both altruistically and pragmatically. Among industrialized nations only the U. S. fails to provide universal health care for its pregnant women and their unborn children--the most vulnerable among us. The real irony is, providing this care is so doable--in fact, so easily doable. This doesn't begin to equate with trying to provide health care for the

37 million uninsured; in fact, there are only 4 million annual births in the U. S. and of this number only about 22% are without comprehensive perinatal care which is well less than a million births. Based on \$3200 per pregnancy, I would estimate a total annual cost of \$2.8 billion which is just about what we spend each day on our overall health care. Of course HCFA can provide harder numbers. This seems like an issue that would attract bipartisan support. What a wonderful accomplishment this would be for the future of our nation.

The second issue relates to welfare reform. An excellent opportunity exists for us to break a vicious cycle for children at high risk if we can only muster the national will to do so. An integral component of welfare reform needs to be superlative day-care services. By providing such service, an early opportunity is presented to enhance infant stimulation and to contribute to their speech development at a point when the developing brain is a veritable sponge for languages. Speech functions as perhaps you know better than most are functions so vital to perform effectively in today's highly complex technological society. Give this concept your thought.

Lastly, let me put forth an idea that I have not openly espoused on my speaking circuit primarily because of its potential to have political implications if not handled adroitly. However, notwithstanding this and because I feel the idea has such significant intrinsic value, I will put it forth to you first.

✓ With respect to pregnant adolescents, I feel it's time to revisit what I like to characterize as dedicated (alternative) schools; schools specifically and exclusively structured for adolescents for whom parenthood is imminent. I have attempted to use logic in reaching this position. The new and timely National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy which you established in February of this year has appropriately set as one of its goals the assurance that our youth grow up with a pregnancy-free adolescence and that being sexually active as unmarried adolescents is not the norm. Hence, based on this premise it is logical that dedicated or alternative schools for expecting teen parents, boys and girls, are clearly in the best interest of both groups of students i.e., those in the midst of becoming parents and those who are not. The new responsibilities of parenting are enormous and can best be addressed in a specialized setting such as that a dedicated school can provide. And for those youth who are free of teen parenting, they should not have the distractions of those needing to learn parenting skills. It's a win-win situation but I'm not naive- I know those opposed to this position will assert that the measure is being done for punitive reasons. However it's not. Further, I am not suggesting this as an administrative position for I recognize that this is not a decision that ought to be made in Washington; rather it should be a local option made at the local level.

Perhaps we'll get a chance to discuss these and other issues at some point. And remember we still have an unfinished golf date.

Every best wish to you and your family for a most enjoyable holiday season and a highly productive new year.

With warm regards,

*Hank*

Henry W. Foster, Jr., M. D.

5186/840/F961214

Henry W. Foster, Jr., M. D.

DETERMINED TO BE AN  
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING  
INITIALS: BCCR DATE: 11/21/13

President Bill Clinton

Personal and Confidential