

FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
administrative marker by the William J. Clinton
Presidential Library Staff.**

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records
Subgroup/Office of Origin: Legislative Affairs
Series/Staff Member: Pat Griffin; Susan Brophy; Howard Paster
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 11004
FolderID:

Folder Title:
Riley Fast Track Testimony

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
S	26	2	3	2

OK
FTH
JP 2/20

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 02/19/93 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 02/20 3:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: RICHARD RILEY MEMO re FAST-TRACK EDUCATION REFORM LEGISLATION

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	PASTER	☒	☐
McLARTY	☐	☐	RASCO	☐	☒
GEARAN	☒	☐	(Galston's approved)		
PANETTA	☒	☐	RUBIN	☐	☐
EMANUEL	☐	☐	SEGAL	☐	☒
GIBBONS	☐	☐	STEPHANOPOULOS	☒	☐
HALE	☐	☐	VARNEY	☐	☐
HERMAN	☐	☐	WATKINS	☐	☐
LAKE	☐	☐	WILLIAMS	☐	☐
LINDSEY	☐	☐		☐	☐
MONTOKA	☐	☐		☐	☐
NUSSBAUM	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please review. Any problem with proceeding in the fashion proposed by the Secretary?

RESPONSE:

JOHN D. PODESTA
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

THE SECRETARY

83 FEB 19 P10:27

February 19, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley

SUBJECT: Fast-track Education Reform Legislation

I. ACTION-FORCING EVENT: Senator Kennedy has scheduled a hearing of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor for Wednesday, February 24. The topic is the Administration's plans for education reform legislation. I has been asked to testify, as the only witness.

The Education Department has been developing a two-track legislative strategy for elementary and secondary education reform. The first, faster track we propose would create mechanisms for establishing national standards and examinations, and support state and local restructuring and reform efforts. This bill would be called Goals 2000: The Educate America Act. We plan to submit this to the Congress within the next month for rapid enactment. The Administration's FY 1994 budget contains funds for this program. The second track involves the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, including the Chapter 1 program. The second track will probably take 18 months before it is completed.

This memorandum seeks approval for the proposed two-track strategy, and for the introduction of a fast-track education reform bill.

II. BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS: The education reform legislation we are developing will:

- Establish a framework for relating federal education programs, especially the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, with ongoing systemic reform and restructuring efforts at the state and local level.
- Provide Congressional endorsement for the National Education Goals and establish the National Education Goals Panel.
- Establish a National Education Standards and Assessment Council to oversee the development of a national, voluntary system of internationally competitive elementary and secondary-level standards and assessments.

- Establish an Opportunity to Learn Commission, to explore the development of voluntary standards to provide every child an opportunity to learn what is required in order to meet challenging standards.
- Provide grants to states and localities to stimulate the development and implementation of comprehensive state-wide school reform strategies, centered around helping all students perform at high standards.

There are two additional components still under consideration for inclusion in the bill:

- A Workforce Skills Standards Board, which would develop occupational standards for use with youth apprenticeship and workforce training programs. Secretary Reich and I are discussing how best to proceed on this.
- A charter schools provision. We are considering a separate provision for a charter schools demonstration program. I have reservations about this approach because it would dilute the overall systems strategy developed in the rest of the bill. An alternative would be to permit states to use the systemic reform grants for these purposes.

The proposed bill is a streamlined version of the Neighborhood Schools Improvement Act, last year's Democratic alternative to President Bush's America 2000 legislation, which did not pass the Congress. This bill is also patterned after your 1991 education reform legislation in Arkansas, Act 236.

III. RECOMMENDATION: I recommend that the Administration proceed with a fast-track education reform bill as outlined above, to be followed by an Administration proposal for reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The attached bill specifications are in draft form and are being discussed with the OMB, the educational community, and Congressional committees. I will return to you for approval of complete specifications and legislative language within the next two weeks.

This strategy will enable us to move quickly to support fundamental education reform, and to demonstrate the ability of the Administration and the Congress to work together for real change. Funds for education reform will be available to states in the Winter of 1993. The fast track bill will set the stage for the ESEA reauthorization. If we do not use this two-track strategy, we will be forced to address the education reform issues in the reauthorization bill. Because reauthorization will take 18 months the funds it authorizes will not be provided to schools until the 1995-96 school year.

IV. DECISION:

☐ Approve ☐ Approve as amended ☐ Reject ☐ No Action