



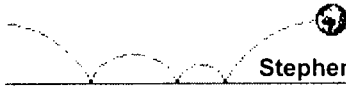
Anna Richter
12/15/2000 06:08:15 PM



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cc: Karin Kullman/OPD/EOP@EOP
Subject: A VICTORY FOR STUDENTS AND HEALTH CARE:
PRESIDENT CLINTON, VICE PRESIDENT GORE, AND CONGRESSIONAL DEMOCRATS WIN A
LANDMARK BUDGET

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Stephen N. Boyd

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A VICTORY FOR STUDENTS AND HEALTH CARE:
PRESIDENT CLINTON, VICE PRESIDENT GORE, AND
CONGRESSIONAL DEMOCRATS WIN A LANDMARK BUDGET
December 15, 2000

All year, President Clinton, Vice President Gore, and congressional Democrats have fought for a fiscally responsible budget that maintains America's prosperity by paying down the debt while making key investments in education, health care, and other priorities for America. **Today, President Clinton and Congress completed their work on the budget, agreeing on a budget for education, health, and labor programs and the New Markets initiative.**

The bill is a landmark achievement: it provides a \$6.5 billion (or 18 percent) increase for the Department of Education, the largest ever and a 76 percent increase since 1993. The Department of Health and Human Services receives a \$9 billion (or 22 percent) increase. It establishes the President's school repair initiative and provides the largest increases ever for the U.S. Department of Education, after-school programs, Head Start, school accountability, Pell Grants for college students (since the program was fully implemented in 1974), and the National Institutes of Health. It expands coverage under Medicare, Medicaid, and the State Children's Health Insurance Program and restores reimbursements to health care providers that were disproportionately effected by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

Investing in America's Students. The Clinton-Gore education strategy of higher standards for students and teachers, accountability for results, and the greater investment in our schools is working.

✓ **\$933 Million Increase for Head Start, Doubling Resources since 1993.** President Clinton won a \$933 million increase for Head Start to \$6.2 billion, serving 935,000 children. This is the largest one-year increase in Head Start ever. Since 1993, Head Start has more than doubled from \$2.8 billion to \$6.2 billion.

✓ **\$1.2 Billion for a New School Repair Initiative.** President Clinton fought for and won a new initiative to repair America's schools, providing \$1.2 billion for urgent school renovation. This initiative was a top priority of the President's, but it wasn't in the earlier Republican budget passed by the House of Representatives. The budget also provides much-needed repair funds to Native American schools.

✓ **Staying on Track to Hire 100,000 Teachers to Reduce Class Size.** President Clinton won \$1.6 billion for his class-size reduction initiative—a \$323 million (or 25 percent) increase over last year—to stay on track to hire 100,000 new teachers to reduce class sizes in the early grades. The House Republican budget failed to dedicate funds for class-size reduction.

✓ **Nearly Doubling After-School Learning Opportunities.** The budget includes \$846 million for after-school programs, a \$396 million (or 88 percent) increase over last year and \$246 million above the House Republican plan, serving 1.3 million children nationwide.

✓ **\$567 Million to Improve Teacher Quality.** The budget includes \$567 million for the President's teacher quality initiatives, a 52 percent increase. It invests in professional development, recruitment, and retention; expands the successful Troops to Teachers program to other mid-career professionals; and trains early childhood educators.

✓ **Holding Schools Accountable for Student Achievement.** President Clinton won \$225 million—a 70 percent increase since last year—to turn around low-performing schools, while the House Republican budget failed to invest in this key priority.

✓ **Creating College Opportunities.** Last January, President Clinton announced his request for a \$1 billion increase in efforts to expand student and prepare students for college. Consistent with his plan, the budget:

- **Provides the Largest Increase in Pell Grants Ever.** The budget increases the maximum Pell grant to \$3,750, a \$450 increase since last year—the largest one-year increase since the program was phased-in in 1974—and a \$1,450 increase since 1993.
- **Increases Funding for GEAR UP by \$95 Million to \$295 Million.** The House Republican plan froze GEAR UP at \$200 million. The budget will help 1.2 million disadvantaged students prepare for college.
- **Provides the Second-Largest TRIO Increase in History.** The budget increases TRIO funding by \$85 million to \$730 million and incorporates key elements of the President's College Completion Challenge Grants proposal into TRIO.
- **Funds One Million Work-Study Jobs.** It sustains the President's commitment to give one million students the opportunity to work through college.

Strengthening Health Care. The President's budget will strengthen the nation's health care system by:

✓ **Investing in Medicare, Medicaid, and S-CHIP Beneficiaries and Providers.** The budget enacts the Medicare, Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP) Benefits Improvement and Protection Act, which invests nearly \$35 billion over five years to: (1) improve Medicare's prevention benefits and cost-sharing, (2) provide health care coverage to persons leaving welfare for work and enroll eligible uninsured children in Medicaid and S-CHIP through schools and other sites, and (3) increase reimbursement to hospitals, home health agencies, nursing homes, managed care plans and other essential health care providers disproportionately affected by cuts from the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

✓ **Supporting Biomedical Research.** The budget invests \$20.3 billion in cutting-edge biomedical research

at the National Institutes of Health, a 14 percent increase since last year and nearly double the \$10.3 billion spent in 1993.

✓ **Creating the Family Caregivers Program.** The budget provides \$125 million for states to provide respite and other support services to families who care for elderly relatives with long-term care needs.

✓ **Expanding AIDS Care, Prevention, and Research.** The budget includes a \$164 million increase in funding for domestic and international HIV prevention activities; an increase of \$213 million in the Ryan White CARE Act, which helps provide primary care and support for those living with HIV/AIDS; and an estimated \$2.2 billion in additional funds for AIDS-related research at the NIH.

✓ **Funding the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act.** The budget provides \$580 million for a total of \$655 million for one-time payments of \$100,000 to people with hemophilia who were infected with HIV by blood solids during the 1980s.

✓ **Improving Mental Health and Substance Abuse Activities.** The budget increases resources for the prevention and treatment of mental health and substance abuse by 12 percent, providing nearly \$3 billion.

✓ **Promoting Community-Based Care for Americans with Disabilities.** The budget invests \$50 million to help states develop comprehensive plans to care for people with disabilities in the most appropriate setting.

✓ **Improving Nursing Home Quality.** The budget includes a \$32 million (68 percent) increase for the Nursing Home Initiative, which ensures more rigorous inspections of nursing facilities and improves federal oversight of nursing home quality.

Preparing America's Workers for the 21st Century. The budget invests in worker training to raise productivity and help Americans compete in the global economy.

✓ **Creating Opportunities for Youth.** The final budget provides a \$102 million increase (to \$1.1 billion) to provide job training and summer job opportunities to roughly 660,000 disadvantaged young people. It also increases Youth Opportunity Grants to \$275 million to provide comprehensive employment and training assistance to 63,000 out-of-school young people in high poverty areas.

✓ **Continuing the Universal Reemployment Initiative.** The budget creates \$35 million Reemployment initiative to help 156,000 Unemployment Insurance claimants get jobs faster. It also provides \$1.6 billion for Dislocated Workers, nearly tripled from \$597 million in 1993.

✓ **Protecting Workers.** The final budget includes \$1.2 billion to enforce federal safety, health, pensions, wages, and nondiscrimination practices. This \$102 million increase will support 1,500 inspections to ensure safe and healthy workplaces.

IN ADDITION TO THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRESS ON EDUCATION AND HEALTH, THIS YEAR'S BUDGET INCLUDES HIS OTHER VITAL PRIORITIES FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE:

Protecting Fiscal Discipline and Paying Down the Debt. The budget is a victory for President Clinton's stand for fiscal discipline. Between 1981 and 1992, the debt quadrupled. When President Clinton and Vice President Gore took office, the budget deficit was \$290 billion and it was projected to be \$455 billion by 2000. As a result of the tough and sometimes unpopular choices made by President Clinton, we have seen eight consecutive years of fiscal improvement for the first time in America's history, bringing last year's budget to a unified surplus of \$237 billion, the largest ever. With this surplus, we have been able to reverse this trend of exploding debt by paying down the debt for three years in a row.

✓ **Protecting Fiscal Discipline.** The Republicans proposed fiscally irresponsible tax cuts that would have jeopardized this record of fiscal discipline. In August, President Clinton vetoed Republican tax cuts that were part of their 10-year tax plan that would drain nearly \$2 trillion from the surplus, drive us back into deficits, and make it impossible to eliminate our debt by 2012.

✓ **Paying Down the Debt.** Because record deficits have become record surpluses, we were able to cut our debt by \$223 billion last year, the largest one-year debt reduction in U.S. history. The debt at the end of FY 2000 was \$2.4 trillion lower than it was projected to be in the last forecast before the President's program was put in place. We can pay off our debt by 2012, making America debt-free for the first time since Andrew Jackson was President in 1835.

✓ **Benefiting from Debt Reduction.** Already, debt reduction has meant about \$2,000 a year in lower interest payments for home mortgages, about \$200 a year in lower car payments, and about \$200 a year for lower student loan payments. Continuing to pay down the debt will keep interest rates about a point lower over the next decade, saving American families over \$300 billion in home mortgages alone.

Protecting the Environment. President Clinton and Vice President Gore won significant gains for the environment in the fiscal year 2001 budget, including new resources to combat water pollution, protect wildlife, address global warming, and preserve precious lands across the country. At the same time, the President and Vice President fought back numerous, anti-environmental riders that would have traded hard-won environmental safeguards for short-term special interest gains.

✓ **Preserving Our Lands Legacy.** The budget provides \$12 billion over six years in unprecedented, dedicated funding for the conservation of America's land and coastal resources.

✓ **Promoting Clean Water and Restoring the Florida Everglades.** The budget includes a \$164 million increase for the President's Clean Water Action Plan and \$118 million to begin restoring the Florida Everglades.

✓ **Fighting Global Warming.** The budget includes \$1.2 billion, a 13 percent increase, for President Clinton's Climate Change Technology Initiative, the backbone of the nation's effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The initiative supports research, development, and deployment of solar and renewable energy technology and energy efficient products.

Helping Working Families. The final budget helps all Americans participate in our economic prosperity.

✓ **Helping Hard-Pressed Working Families Meet Their Nutritional Needs.** Congress approved the Administration's proposed reforms to allow 245,000 people to own a reliable car and still receive Food Stamps and to help over 1.5 million low-income people with high housing costs put food on the table.

✓ **Funding 79,000 New Housing Vouchers.** This \$453 million increase—the largest in more than 15 years—will enable more families to rent or own affordable housing. These vouchers build on the 110,000 new vouchers secured through the President's leadership in the past two years.

✓ **Helping More Low-Income Families Afford Child Care.** The \$817 million increase (to \$2 billion) for the Child Care and Development Block Grant will provide child care subsidies for nearly 150,000 more children, helping more working families balance their responsibilities at work and home.

Empowering Communities. In addition to the progress made in today's New Markets agreement, this budget moves forward on the President's vision to help revitalize America's communities.

✓ **Expanding Community Development Financial Institutions.** The President won \$118 million for the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund to support loans and equity investments in under-served communities.

✓ **Promoting Community Service.** President Clinton won \$767 million for national and community service, a \$36 million increase. This year, AmeriCorps will enroll its 250,000th member.

✓ **Developing the Mississippi Delta Region.** The budget funds a new federal-state partnership to fight for economic growth in the Mississippi Delta region, a seven-State area which includes some of the most distressed communities in the nation. It includes resources for the Delta Regional authority, to improve rural economic

activity, and improve the Delta's transportation infrastructure.

Closing the Digital Divide and Investing in Research and Development. In recognition of the centrality of knowledge and new technologies to our prosperity and quality of life, the budget includes an unprecedented commitment to creating digital opportunities and investing in research and development.

✓ **Closing the Digital Divide.** The budget includes a \$32 million increase for Community Technology Centers, a \$50 million increase for Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology, and a \$30 million increase for the Technology Opportunities Program.

✓ **National Science Foundation.** The budget provides the largest one-year increase for the NSF ever, \$526 million, to pursue scientific breakthroughs in core scientific areas as well as new ones like nanotechnology.

✓ **National Institutes of Health.** The budget provides a \$2.5 billion increase to NIH for research into diabetes, cancer, and brain disorders, and disease prevention strategies and vaccines.

Fighting Crime, Drugs, and Gun Violence. To keep crime coming down across the country, President Clinton fought for important investments in the budget to build on the Administration's successful community policing initiative, including funds to put more police on the street and critical resources to strengthen law enforcement efforts to keep communities safe and combat gun-related crime and violence.

✓ **Putting More Police on Our Streets.** Last year, President Clinton and Vice President Gore met their commitment to help communities hire 100,000 new police officers. This year, they won over \$1 billion to take the next step and help communities hire up to 50,000 more officers over the next five years.

✓ **Enforcing Gun Laws.** President Clinton won nearly \$200 million for his Gun Enforcement Initiative, the largest in history, to hire 500 ATF firearms agents and inspectors, fund over 600 federal state and local gun prosecutors and expand crime gun tracing and ballistics testing.

✓ **Keeping Children Safe from Guns.** The Administration won \$8 million to expand the development of "smart gun" technologies that help prevent accidental gun deaths and injuries of children by limiting the use of a firearm to the adult who owns it or another authorized user.

Maintaining America's Global Leadership. The President fought for and secured victories to strengthen America's leading role in the world by investing in a strong military and providing debt relief to heavily indebted poor countries.

✓ **Providing Debt Relief.** The final budget provides \$435 million for debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries that commit to reform. Savings from debt relief would be directed to education, health care, AIDS prevention, and other critical needs. Unsustainable debt keeps many countries in poverty; over a billion people survive on less than \$1 a day.

✓ **Fighting AIDS.** President Clinton won \$466 million to combat HIV/AIDS and \$125 million for other infectious diseases that plague the developing world. The budget also funds the President's Millennium Vaccine Initiative.

✓ **Maintaining a Strong Military.** Consistent with the Clinton-Gore plan for a long-term, sustained increase in defense spending, this year's budget for the Department of Defense provides \$296.4 billion, a \$15.8 billion increase (excluding emergency spending for FY 2000).

✓ **Keeping the Peace.** The budget includes the President's full request of \$835 million for contributions for international peacekeeping activities. Our ability to pay our share of international peacekeeping missions is a crucial part of fulfilling our international security responsibilities and ensuring that other nations share the burden with us.

THE 2001 BUDGET: A VICTORY FOR AMERICA'S STUDENTS

HOUSE REPUBLICAN BUDGET ¹	FINAL BUDGET INCREASE OVER HOUSE BUDGET
Urgent School Renovation\$0\$1.2 billion+ \$1.2 billion	
Class-Size Reduction\$0\$1.6 billion+ \$1.6 billion	
After School\$600 million\$846 million+ \$246 million	
Teaching to High Standards\$0\$567 million+ \$567 million	
Accountability Fund\$0\$225 million+ \$225 million	
Title I Grants to School Districts for Disadvantaged Children2\$7.9 billion\$8.4 billion+ 436 million	
Maximum Pell Grant College Scholarship\$3,500\$3,750+ \$250	
GEAR UP\$200 million\$295 million+ \$95 million	

1 Based on the budget passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on June 14, 2000. That bill would have provided \$37.1 billion for education programs, \$5 billion less than the final budget.

2 Does not include the Accountability Fund.

EIGHT YEARS OF PROGRESS ON EDUCATION

1993 FUNDING2001 FUNDINGCHANGE

Urgent School Renovation\$0\$1.2 billion+ \$1.2 billion

Class-Size Reduction\$0\$1.6 billion+ \$1.6 billion

After School\$0\$846 million+ \$846 million

Teacher Recruitment and Training \$435 million\$995 million+ \$560 million

Accountability Fund\$0\$225 million+ \$225 million

Title I Grants to School Districts for Disadvantaged Children1\$6.1 billion\$8.4 billion+ \$2.3 billion

Education Technology\$23 million\$872 million+ \$849 million

Special Education\$3.0 billion\$7.4 billion+ \$4.5 billion

Small, Safe, and Successful High Schools\$0\$125 million+ \$125 million

Maximum Pell Grant (+ \$2.3 billion)	(Total Pell Grants)\$2,300 (\$6.5 billion)	\$3,750 (\$8.8 billion)
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Hope Scholarships Tax Credit\$0\$5.1 billion+ \$5.1 billion

Lifetime Learning Tax Credit\$0\$2.8 billion+ \$2.8 billion

Student Loan Interest Deduction\$0\$333 million+ \$333 million

Work-Study\$617 million\$1.0 billion+ \$394 million

TRIO\$388 million\$730 million+ \$342 million

GEAR UP\$0\$295 million+ \$295 million

1 Does not include the Accountability Fund

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Reading and Literacy

Reading Scores Improve:

- The 1998 NAEP Reading Report Card found that average reading scores improved at all three levels tested – 4th, 8th and 12th grades – between 1994 and 1998. [NAEP, 1998 Reading Report Card, 3/99]

America Reads Has Tutored More than 2 Million Children:

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore created the America Reads program as a challenge to communities, businesses and families to work together to make sure every child reads well by the third grade. President Clinton made it possible for work-study students to earn money for college by serving as reading tutors for children. Today, more than 25,000 work study students serve as tutors. Since America Reads was launched in 1997, more than two million children have been tutored to read by national service programs such as AmeriCorps, VISTA, and Foster Grandparents. One million children will be served by the America Reads program this year.

Head Start Quality Improvements Focus on Reading Readiness:

- Reforms enacted in 1998 set aside new funds to make quality improvements in the Head Start program, including providing quality early literacy training for Head Start students so that Head Start graduates enter school ready to read. [HHS, Improving Head Start: A Success Story, 6/16/2000]

Expands Even Start Family Literacy

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have increased participation in the Even Start family literacy initiative to 48,000 families.

Expanding Bilingual and Immigrant Opportunities

- The Clinton-Gore Administration has significantly expanded opportunities for children, adults and families to improve English skills. They have nearly doubled funding for bilingual and immigrant programs and launched a new initiative combining English language and reading instruction with civics and life skills instruction and new teacher training initiatives will help teachers specialize in teaching children improve their English skills.

Special Education

Doubled funding for Special Education

- The Clinton-Gore Administration has increased funding for students with disabilities from less than \$3 billion in 1993 to more than \$6 billion in 2000. State grants are at the highest level ever, and have increased by 127 percent since 1994.

Raised Standards and Improved IDEA

- In 1997, the President enacted a stronger Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), reaffirming our national commitment to provide a world class education for all our children by ensuring that our nation's schools are safe and conducive to learning, while scrupulously protecting the rights of students with disabilities. Funding for the basic IDEA grant program has increased by 100 percent under the Clinton-Gore Administration. Because of the 97 IDEA reforms:
- students with disabilities have a right to be in the classroom and to be included in school activities,
- students with disabilities learn the same things with the same curricula and the same assessments as all other children,
- teachers receive more training so that they can effectively teach students with disabilities, and
- schools are required to develop individual plans to prepare students for life beyond school including job training, independent living plans and preparation for higher education.

More Students with Disabilities are Taught in Regular Classes

- The percentage of students with disabilities taught in regular classrooms has reached all-time high under President Clinton and Vice President Gore. In 1996-97, 46.2 percent of students spent 80 percent or more of their time in a regular classroom. By comparison, 40.5 percent of students with disabilities attended regular classes in 1992-93. This means that approximately 600,000 more students with disabilities attend regular classes than in 92-93, an increase of 29 percent. [Dept of Education, 21st Annual Report on IDEA, 4/11/2000]

More Students with Disabilities are Receiving High School Diplomas

- The number of students receiving high school diplomas increased by 32 percent between 1992-93 and 1996-97. This means that 33,000 more students with disabilities graduated with diplomas [Dept of Education, 21st Annual Report on IDEA, 4/11/2000]

Expanded Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

The Clinton-Gore Administration has worked to remove the many barriers that make it more difficult for people with disabilities to contribute to the work force:

- They supported and signed the Work Incentives Improvement Act to allow people with disabilities to return to work without fear of losing their Medicare or Medicaid health insurance coverage.
- The Clinton Administration proposed and succeeded in enacting a \$1,000 tax credit to help pay work-related expenses such as transportation and assistive technology that will help over 200,000 working people with disabilities.
- The Administration has accelerated research and adoption of assistive technologies and made them more affordable.
- The Clinton-Gore Administration has implemented FCC regulations ensuring that people with disabilities have access to important business technology such as telephones, cell phones, pagers, call waiting, and operator services.

Education Technology

Connecting Schools and Classrooms to the Internet

- In 1999, 95 percent of public schools were connected to the Internet -- up from 35 percent in 1994. In 1999, 63 percent of all public school classrooms were connected to the Internet -- up from just 3 percent in 1994. [NCES, Internet Access in U.S. Public Schools and Classrooms, February 2000]
- President Clinton and Vice President Gore also Fought for the \$2.25 billion "E-rate" to Connect Schools and Libraries to the Internet. The E-rate is providing 20 percent - 90 percent discounts to connect schools and libraries to the Internet, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools that need it most. By the end of 2000, the E-rate will have funded \$6.25 billion of telecommunications infrastructure and services to schools and libraries. In 1999, 82 percent of public schools (over 78,000) and 51 percent of public libraries received public funding.

Increased Investments in Education Technology

- President Clinton Succeeded in Increasing Educational Technology Funding by Over 3,000 Percent -- From \$23 Million in FY94 to \$766 million in FY2000.
- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have provided nearly \$1.5 billion over the past four years to states through the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund in order to work with the private sector to put computers, educational software and Internet connections in classrooms.
- Over the last five years, the Technology Innovation Challenge has generated \$1.3 billion in matching commitments for \$450 million in federal investment. Partnerships created by the program involve 220 colleges and universities, 381 businesses, 520 community-based organizations, and 744 schools, districts, and other partners in developing innovative uses of computers, networking, Web-based instruction, and multimedia across the curriculum.

Closing the Digital Divide

- In 1999, the Clinton-Gore Administration created Community Technology Centers to increase access to computers and technology in communities all across the country. There are now centers in 120 communities across the country, and President Clinton has requested funding to establish 1,000 more. In addition, the President has proposed \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage private sector contributions of technology, sponsorship of technology centers and technology training for workers.

Training Teachers to use Technology

- In 1994, 51 percent of teachers had recently participated in professional development on the use of technology. In 1998, 78 percent of teachers received professional development that focused on the integration of technology in the grade and subject they taught.
- The new \$75 million Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology program supports 1,350 partnerships among colleges, school districts, State educational agencies, high-tech companies, and non-profit organizations. These partnerships will train 400,000 new teachers to be technologically literate and able to integrate technology into the curriculum.

Standards and Results for High Poverty Schools

High Standards & Accountability for High Poverty Schools

- The Clinton-Gore Administration ended the practice of setting lower curriculum standards for poor schools in its Title I reauthorization. [1994 ESEA Reauthorization Act]
- Title I funding is better targeted to high-poverty schools. In 1993-94 just 70 percent of high-poverty schools received Title I funds. As a result of changes signed into law by the Clinton-Gore Administration, 95 percent of the highest-poverty schools receive Title I funds. [Dept of Education, Targeting Schools: Study of Title I Allocations Within School Districts, 3/99]
- The Clinton-Gore Administration created the federal government's first ever attempt to identify failing schools -- a \$134 million Title I accountability fund to identify and help turn around failing schools. The Administration is pushing for broader reforms that would require states to turn around failing schools or shut them down. [OMB, FY2001 Budget]

Progress in Closing Educational Gaps

- 9-year-olds in high-poverty schools increased their reading test scores by an average of 8 points between 1992-96 – the equivalent on one full grade level. The gap between test scores for high-poverty 9-year-olds and all 9-year-olds narrowed by 7 points over this period – nearly 25 percent of the gap existing when the Clinton-Gore Administration took office was erased in the first four years. [Dept of Education, 5-year Report Card on American Education, 2/00]
- 9 year-olds in high-poverty schools increased their math scores by an average of 9 points between 1992-96. The gap between test scores for high-poverty 9-year-olds and all 9-year-olds narrowed by 7 points over this period – 35 percent of the gap existing when the Clinton-Gore Administration took office was erased in the first four years. [Dept of Education, 5-year Report Card on American Education, 2/00]
- Low-income high school graduates are much more likely to go on to college today. In 1992, 40.9 percent of high school graduates from families in the bottom 20 percent went directly to college. In 1997, 57 percent did – an all time high. [Condition of Education, 1999; Census Bureau]

Clinton-Gore Reforms and Initiatives Targeting High-Poverty Schools

- **Head Start:** The Clinton-Gore Administration has increased funding for Head Start by 90 percent, adding 250,000 slots for Head Start students, including expanding the program to serve 40,000 children under three years old in Early Start. [HHS 6/16/2000] In addition, Head Start reforms have brought accountability to the program. Over 200 grantees have turned their failing programs around, while another 100 that failed to reform have been shut down. [HHS, 10/27/98]
- **After School:** After school and summer school programs give low-income students the extra tutoring, mentoring and study opportunities they need to meet high standards. Under President Clinton and Vice President Gore, after school and summer school programs now serve 850,000 students.
- **GEAR-UP:** Encourages students in high-poverty middle schools to begin preparing to go to college. GEAR-UP serves 750,000 students.
- **E-Rate:** Provides over \$2 billion per year in discounts for internet connections and access, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools. Over 647,000 classrooms will be connected to the Internet as a direct result of E-Rate. Today, 90 percent of high-poverty schools are connected to the internet.
- **Teacher Quality:** President Clinton's and Vice President Gore's efforts to hire quality teachers in the early grades.

- **Advanced Placement Initiative:** Provides \$15 million to encourage students in high-poverty schools take AP tests through fee waivers, tutoring and classroom materials. Over 92,000 students have taken advantage of the program.
- **More College Assistance:** The Administration has increased the amount of Pell Grants, the number of work-study spots, and added new service options like AmeriCorps to help students earn money for school. Over 2.5 million more students receive federal grants or loans to pay for college today than in 1992.

Math, Science and Technology Education

Higher Math Test Scores

- Since 1992, scores on the national standardized NAEP math test have increased at 4th, 8th and 12th grade levels. In 1996, nearly 70 percent of High School seniors performed at a level above basic skills, up from 64 percent in 1992. [NAEP 1996 Mathematics Report Card; The Condition of Education 1999]

Math Scores Increased For Minority Students

- NAEP Math scores increased for African American, Hispanic, and Native American students at all three levels tested. African American students performed seven points better in 1996 than in 1992 at the 4th grade level and Native American students performed nine points better at the 8th grade level. [NAEP 1996 Mathematics Report Card; The Condition of Education 1999]

High School Students Are Taking More Math and Science Classes

- As states have set higher standards and more students have aimed for college, the number of students taking math and science classes have increased. In 1990, just 39 percent of high school graduates took a core curriculum of four years of Math Science and Social Studies. In 1998, 55 percent of graduates had taken four years of Math, Science and Social Studies. [Department of Education, 5-year Report Card on American Education, February 2000]

Recruiting and Preparing Quality of Math and Science Teachers

- The number of public school math teachers who have a major or minor in math has increased from 77 percent in 1993 to 82 percent in 1998 and the number of science teachers with major or minor in science has increased from 82 percent in 1993 to 88 percent in 1998. [Department of Education, Schools and Staffing Survey; 5-year Report Card on American Education, February 2000] In his 2000 State of the Union, the President called on states to require 95 percent of teachers to be teaching within their field by 2004. And the President's proposed \$1 billion Teaching to High Standards Initiative provides the incentives and funding for recruitment and professional development to make it possible. [OMB, FY2001 Budget, p.45]

America Counts – Helping Students Master Mathematics

- In 1997, the Administration made it a national priority for all students to master mathematics, including the foundations of algebra and geometry, by the end of 8th grade. [1997 State of the Union Address, 2/4/97] To reach this goal, Vice President Gore announced the America Counts initiative in November 1998, a national effort to provide children with well-trained tutors challenge. The Administration eased Work-Study regulations, encouraging college students in the federal Work-Study program to serve as math tutors. [OVP Release, 12/12/98] In the first year alone, nearly 500 colleges and universities had joined the America Counts program. [America Counts Release, 5/22/00; ed.gov/mericacounts/committed.html]

Expanded Access to Technology

- The President and Vice President created the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund to help connect every school to the Internet, increase the number of multimedia computers in the classroom and provide technology training for teachers. They increased overall investments in educational technology from \$23 million in 1993 to \$769 million in FY 2000, and tripled funding for Community Technology Centers to reach at least 120 low-income communities. [Office of Management and Budget, FY2000, FY2001 Budgets] Through the E-rate program, they secured low-cost connections to the Internet for schools, libraries, rural health clinics and hospitals,

benefiting more than 80 percent of America's public schools. [EdLinc, E-Rate, Connecting Kids to the Future, edlinc.org] In 1999, 95 percent of public schools were connected to the Internet -- up from 35 percent in 1994. In 1999, 63 percent of all public school classrooms were connected to the Internet -- up from just 3 percent in 1994. [NCES, Internet Access in U.S. Public Schools and Classrooms, February 2000]

Opportunity and Results for African American Students

Test Scores of African American Students Are Up

- Reading and Math test scores of African American students are up in virtually all categories.
- Reading scores increased for both 9-year-old and 17-year-old African Americans between 1992 and 1996.
- 17-year-olds narrowed the gap between white students and all students by seven points – eliminating nearly 20 percent of the gap that existed between African American and white students when the Clinton-Gore Administration took office in the first four years.
- Under the previous Administration, scores dropped and gaps widened. This Administration has worked to recover some of its losses. In its first four years, the Clinton-Gore administration succeeded in narrowing three-quarters of the gap opened during the previous administration among 9-year-olds and nearly half the gap opened among 17-year-olds. [Condition of Education, 1998; NAEP]

Average NAEP Reading Scores Among African-American Students			
		1988-92	1992-96
9-year-olds	test scores	- 4 points	+ 5 points
	score gap	Widens by 4 points	Narrows by 3 points
17-year-olds	test scores	- 13 points	+ 4 points
	score gap	Widens by 15 points	Narrows by 7 points

- Math scores increased at the 4th, 8th and 12th grade levels for African American students. Improvements among African American students at all three levels roughly kept pace with improvements among white students and among students as a whole. [Condition of Education, 1999; NAEP]

More African American Students are Taking AP Exams

- Three times as many African American students took AP exams in 1999 as took the tests in 1988. [www.collegeboard.org]

More African American Students are Going to College

- The percentage of African American high school graduates who go on to college has increased from 50 percent in 1992 to 58.5 percent in 1997. And over a period when the rates were increasing for all students to the highest level ever, the gap between African American and white high school graduates narrowed was cut almost in half over this period, dropping from 16 points to 9. [Condition of Education, 1999; Census Bureau]
- The percentage of young African Americans with college degrees increased from 13.7 percent in 1992 to 17.9 percent in 1998. [Condition of Education, 1999; Census Bureau]

Doubled Support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities

- The Clinton Gore Administration has nearly doubled funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. In FY1993, these institutions received \$109 million from the Education Department. The President's FY2001 budget contains \$209 million for HBCUs and HBCU graduate programs. Over 300,000 African American students attend HBCUs. These schools award over 25 percent of all Bachelors degrees earned by African Americans nationwide.
- In order to further strengthen these institutions, the President proposed a \$40 million program in his FY2001 budget that allows students to earn dual degrees at a HBCU and a partner school that offers additional programs.

Clinton-Gore Education Reforms Expand Opportunity for African Americans:

- Title I: Clinton-Gore reforms to Title I have ended the practice of setting different standards for Title I students, targeted funds to schools that need help, created a \$134 million accountability fund to identify and turn around failing schools and created a new level of flexibility, including eliminating two-thirds of regulations at the elementary and secondary level.
- Head Start: President Clinton and Vice President Gore have expanded Head Start participation and implemented quality reforms that have drastically improved Head Start. In 1998, 36 percent of the children enrolled in Head Start were African American.
- Charter and Magnet Schools: Charter schools and magnet schools provide parents with school choices that are affordable and accountable. Magnet schools are especially helpful in encouraging diversity and eliminating segregation. The number of charter schools has increased from 1 to 1,700 since 1992 and the number of magnet schools has increased from 2,400 to 4000.
- GEAR-UP: GEAR UP works with students starting in 7th grade or earlier through high school graduation because research shows that students taking challenging courses in middle school are much more likely to succeed in high school and go on to college. GEAR UP is serving more than 750,000 students nationwide.
- AmeriCorps: Since 1993, more than 150,000 people have had the opportunity to serve through AmeriCorps, with African Americans comprising 23 percent of all participants.
- College Assistance: The Administration has increased the amount of Pell Grants, the number of work-study spots, and added new service options like AmeriCorps to help students earn money for school. Over 2.5 million more students receive some sort of federal help paying for college today than in 1992. In 1995-96, 57 percent of all African American students enrolled full-time in college received a Pell Grant.
- Expanded After-School & Summer School Opportunities: The 21st Century Community Learning Centers program will provide enriching after-school and summer school opportunities for 850,000 school-age children in rural and urban communities in FY 2000. Extended learning time has not only been shown to increase achievement in reading and math, but to decrease youth violence and drug use. The President's budget proposal will double funding and nearly triple the number of students served to 2.5 million.

Opportunity and Results for Hispanic Students

Test scores of Hispanic Students are Up

- Math Scores of Hispanic Students increased at the 4th, 8th and 12th grade levels between 1992-96. [NAEP Mathematics Report Card, 1996, p. 33]
- The percentage of Hispanic students testing at or above basic math skills increased from 1992-96 at 4th, 8th and 12th grade levels. Half of Hispanic students in their final year of high school have mastered basic math skills, compared with 55 percent below basic level in 1992. [NAEP Mathematics Report Card, 1996, p. 55]
- The percentage of Hispanic students testing at or above basic reading skills increased at the 8th grade level between 1992-98, and a larger percentage of 12th grade students test at or above proficient reading levels in 1998 than in 1992. [NAEP Reading Report Card, 1998, p. 70]

More Hispanic Students taking Core Academic Curriculum

- The percentage of Hispanic High School students taking a core curriculum of 4 years of English and 3 each of Math, Science and Social Studies increased from 30 percent in 1990 to 40 percent in 1998. [Digest of Education Statistics, 1999, Table 142]

More Hispanic Students are Taking AP Exams

- Nearly 70,000 Hispanic, Puerto Rican and Mexican American high school students took AP exams in 1999, the most ever. [The College Board, College-Bound Seniors 1999, 8/31/99]

More Hispanic High School Graduates are Going to College

- The percentage of Hispanic High School graduates going directly to college increased from 55 percent in 1992 to 66 percent in 1997 [Condition of Education, 1999, p. 114]

More Hispanic Students Completing College

- The percentage of Hispanic high school graduates age 25-29 who have a college degree is the highest ever. [Census Bureau, Condition of Education 1999, p.126]

Increased Support of Hispanic Education

- **Title I:** Clinton-Gore reforms to Title I have ended the practice of setting different standards for Title I students, targeted funds to schools that need help, created a \$134 million accountability fund to identify and turn around failing schools and created a new level of flexibility, including eliminating two-thirds of regulations at the elementary and secondary level.
- **Head Start:** President Clinton and Vice President Gore have expanded Head Start participation and implemented quality reforms that have improved Head Start Programs. In 1998, TK percent of the children enrolled in Head Start were Hispanic.
- **Charter/Magnet Schools:** Charter schools and magnet schools provide parents with school choices that are affordable and accountable. Magnet schools are especially helpful in encouraging diversity and eliminating segregation. The number of charter schools has increased from 1 to 1,700 since 1992 and the number of magnet schools has increased from 2,400 to 4000.
- **GEAR-UP:** GEAR UP works with students starting in 7th grade or earlier through high school graduation because research shows that students taking challenging courses in middle school are much more likely to succeed in high school and go on to college. GEAR UP is serving more nearly 750,000 students nationwide.
- **AmeriCorps:** Since 1993, more than 150,000 people have had the opportunity to serve through AmeriCorps, with Hispanics comprising 11 percent of all participants.

- **College Assistance:** The Administration has increased the amount of Pell Grants, the number of work-study spots, and added new service options like AmeriCorps to help students earn money for school. Over 2.5 million more students receive some sort of federal help paying for college today than in 1992. In 1995-96, 54 percent of Hispanic students enrolled full-time in college received a Pell Grant.
- **Expanded After-School & Summer School Opportunities:** The 21st Century Community Learning Centers program will provide enriching after-school and summer school opportunities for 850,000 school-age children in rural and urban communities in FY 2000. Extended learning time has not only been shown to increase achievement in reading and math, but to decrease youth violence and drug use. The President's budget proposal will double funding and nearly triple the number of students served to 2.5 million.
- **Bilingual education:** Bilingual education programs today help school districts teach English to more than 1 million students with limited English skills.

PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE
Working on Behalf of African Americans

Expanding Economic Opportunity

Reference?
Moving From Record Deficits to Record Surplus. In 1992, the deficit was \$290 billion, a record dollar high. In 2000, we have a projected budget surplus of \$211 billion -- the third consecutive surplus and the largest surplus ever, even after adjusting for inflation. This is the first time we have had three surpluses in a row in more than a half century.

More Than 22 Million New Jobs. 22.1 million new jobs have been created since 1993, the most jobs ever created under a single Administration -- and more new jobs than Presidents Reagan and Bush created during their three terms. 92 percent (20 million) of the new jobs have been created in the private sector, the highest percentage in 50 years. [National Economic Council, 7/29/00]

Record-Low African American Unemployment. The African-American unemployment rate has fallen from an average of 14.2 percent in 1992 to an average of 7.7 percent in 2000 -- the lowest rate on record.

Median Income of African American Families Is Up \$5,104. Median household income of African American households is up 21 percent (or \$5,104) since 1993, from \$24,300 in 1993 to \$29,404 in 1998, adjusted for inflation. This is larger than the increase for all Americans.

Real Wages are Rising for African Americans. The real wages of African Americans have risen rapidly, up 8.2 percent in the last three years.

Highest Homeownership on Record for African Americans. The homeownership rate for African American households rose to 46.8 percent in the fourth quarter of 1999, the highest homeownership rate on record (comparable data go back to 1994). Between 1994 and 1999 the number of African American families that owned their own homes increased by 1.1 million.

Tax Cuts For Working Families. President Clinton's 1993 Economic Plan provided tax cuts to 15 million hard-pressed working families by expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The average family with two children who received the EITC received a tax cut of \$1,026. In 1997, the EITC lifted 1.1 million African Americans out of poverty. This year the President has proposed expanding the EITC to provide tax relief to 6.8 million additional working families.

African American Poverty Rate Down To Lowest Level on Record. The African American poverty rate has dropped from 33.1 percent in 1993 to 26.1 percent in 1998 -- the lowest level ever recorded (data first collected in 1959) and the largest five-year drop in more than twenty-five years. While this decrease marks significant progress, President Clinton will continue to fight for policies that help to

raise incomes and reduce poverty.

Child Poverty Among African Americans Down To Lowest Level On Record. While the African American child poverty rate is still too high, in 1998 it fell to 36.7 percent -- the lowest level on record (data collected since 1959). Since 1993, the child poverty rate among African Americans has dropped from 46.1 percent to 36.7 percent -- the biggest five-year drop on record.

Increased Minimum Wage. The President raised the minimum wage to \$5.15 an hour -- directly benefiting 1.3 million African American workers. This year, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have called on Congress to pass an additional \$1.00 per hour increase in the minimum wage.

Fighting for Paycheck Equity. The President and Vice President have called on Congress to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, which would strengthen laws prohibiting wage discrimination. This year, the President has proposed a \$27 million initiative to help the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission and the Labor Department fight wage discrimination. In 1999, the median weekly earnings of African American women represented only 66 percent of the median weekly earnings for all men.

Saving Social Security. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have coupled fiscal discipline with a commitment to preserve and protect Social Security. Under the Clinton-Gore Administration, the life of the Social Security trust fund has been extended to 2037. President Clinton has proposed extending the program's solvency to at least 2054 by paying down the national debt and dedicating the interest savings to Social Security. In April 2000, President Clinton signed legislation to eliminate the confusing and out-dated Retirement Earnings Test in order to encourage work and earnings for older Americans. The President has also pushed for measures to strengthen Social Security's benefits to reduce poverty among elderly women. These steps would be a down payment on truly saving Social Security.

Encouraging Investment in Underserved Communities with the New Markets Initiative. President Clinton's New Markets Initiative will help bring economic development and renewal to communities that have not benefited from the soaring economy by spurring more than \$22 billion in new investment in urban and rural areas. On July 25, 2000, the House passed the President's New Markets Initiative in a historic bipartisan agreement that included extension and expansion of Empowerment Zones, and an increase in the Low Income Housing Tax Credit. The President has taken three New Markets Tours of underserved communities, which have helped generate more than \$1 billion in private sector investment commitments.

Expanding Access to Capital through Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI). Proposed and signed into law by the President in 1994, the CDFI Fund is helping to create a network of community development financial institutions in distressed areas across the United States through grants, loans and equity investments. In FY 1999, funding was increased 19 percent to \$95 million, and President Clinton successfully worked to maintain that investment in FY 2000. In FY 2001, the President is proposing \$125 million.

Expanding Investment in Urban and Rural Areas. Spurring economic development in distressed communities, the Clinton-Gore Administration has created 31 Empowerment Zones and more than 100 Enterprise Communities, including 50 rural ECs, which are creating new jobs, new opportunities and stronger communities. This would have a dramatic effect in the areas with high unemployment, weak economies, shortages of affordable housing and other problems. The President won \$70 million in funding for Rural and Urban Empowerment Zones in FY 2000 -- after Congress initially provided no funding. On July 25, 2000, the House passed a bipartisan agreement that would extend and expand the incentives in the existing EZs, as well as create nine new Round 3 Empowerment Zones. The Administration's agreement with Speaker Hastert also includes a first-time commitment for additional funding for Round 2 EZs.

Closing the Digital Divide. Increasing access to technology and bridging the digital divide has been a top priority for President Clinton and Vice President Gore. To help make access to computers and the Internet as universal as the telephone, the Clinton-Gore Administration is proposing a comprehensive initiative to bridge the digital divide and create new opportunity for all Americans. Their FY 2001 budget includes proposals to: broaden access to technologies such as computers, the Internet, and high-speed networks; provide people with the skilled teachers and the training they need to master the information economy; and promote online content and applications that will help empower all Americans to use new technologies to their fullest potential.

Taking Executive Action to Bridge the Digital Divide. In December 1999, President Clinton directed the Cabinet to take specific actions to close the digital divide, such as expanding Community Technology Centers in low-income neighborhoods, continuing to measure the extent of the digital divide, and helping low-income workers gain the skills needed to compete for high-paying information technology jobs. The President also announced the launch of the Digital Divide Network, an Internet-based information clearinghouse on public and private efforts to bring technology to underserved communities; and the formation of the Digital Opportunity Partnership, an alliance between the private sector and civil and human rights organizations to bring high technology to the doorstep of nonprofit organizations. He also announced a commitment by the Congress of National Black Churches to make the digital divide a top civil rights priority.

More than Three Times the Number of Small Business Loans. Between 1993 and 2000 the Small Business Administration (SBA) approved more than 16,100 loans to African American entrepreneurs under the 7(a), 504, and Microloan programs [as of 3/17/00]. In 1999 alone, the SBA granted 2,456 loans, worth \$386.3 million, to African American small business owners -- more than three times the number of loans granted in 1992.

Supporting Minority Business Communities and Increasing Access to Capital. Building on the efforts of the SBA, Vice President Gore unveiled aggressive plans to increase lending and business services to the African American and Hispanic business communities nationwide. The SBA has set a goal of providing an estimated total of \$1.86 billion in loans to African American small businesses over a three-year period. In addition, the Vice President

announced an unprecedented agreement between SBA and the "Big Three" U.S. automakers to increase subcontracting awards to minority businesses by nearly \$3 billion over the next three years -- a 50 percent increase over current levels.

Ensuring Minority Business Owners Have a Fair Opportunity to Compete. The President signed the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century into law on June 9, 1998. The Act protects the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, a program that ensures that minority and women owned businesses have an opportunity to compete for transportation projects. The Administration helped defeat an amendment to the House version of this bill that would have eliminated the DBE Program. In a different measure, the President also approved the creation of a new program to target assistance to minority-owned businesses in industries that continue to reflect the effects of discrimination. As a result, thousands of minority-owned businesses will be able to compete more effectively for government contracts.

Working on Behalf of Minority Farmers. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is working to strengthen programs and increase outreach targeted to underserved communities, including increasing its lending to minority and women producers. In FY 1992, USDA made 961 loans worth \$53.9 million to minority farmers. In FY 1999, that increased to 4,005 loans worth \$296 million. The Administration is committed to righting any past wrongs by federal employees and worked with the Congress in 1998 to craft language contained in the Agriculture Appropriations bill that allows compensation to be provided to many minority farmers who were victims of discrimination by USDA from the early 1980's through the 1990's. On Jan. 5, 1999, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced an historic agreement to settle the discrimination lawsuit against the USDA brought by African American farmers.

Creating New Tools to Help Families Move from Welfare to Work. Since enactment of the 1996 welfare reform law, millions of families have moved from welfare to work. With the President's leadership, the 1997 Balanced Budget Act included \$3 billion to move long-term welfare recipients and low-income non-custodial fathers into jobs. To fully implement this initiative, the President's FY 2001 budget allows grantees an additional two years to spend Welfare-to-Work funds. It also proposes \$255 million for Fathers Work/Families Win grants to promote responsible fatherhood and support working families. The Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit provides tax incentives to encourage businesses to hire long-term welfare recipients. The President's Access to Jobs initiative helps communities design innovative transportation solutions, such as van services, to help former welfare recipients and other low-income workers get to work, and this year the President is proposing \$150 million for this initiative, double last year's level. President Clinton has secured 110,000 new housing vouchers in the last two years to help welfare recipients and hard-pressed working families move closer to job opportunities, and this year he is proposing \$690 million for 120,000 new housing vouchers.

Fighting for Equal Opportunity

Building One America. The President has led the nation in an effort to become One America in the 21st Century: a place where we respect others' differences and, at the same time, embrace the common

values that unite us. Dr. John Hope Franklin, Advisory Board Chair, and Rev. Suzan Johnson Cook served on the Advisory Board to the President's Initiative on Race, which the President charged with overseeing this effort. The President, the Administration and the Advisory Board were actively involved in public outreach efforts -- including holding numerous public meetings and town halls -- to engage Americans across the nation in this historic effort. One of the critical elements of the President's Initiative on Race was identifying, highlighting and sharing with the nation promising local and national efforts to promote racial reconciliation. The Advisory Board presented their final report to the President on September 18, 1998, and recommended that conversations on race continue. President Clinton appointed Robert B. (Ben) Johnson as Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office on the President's Initiative for One America, a new office the President created to follow up on the work of his Initiative on Race. The President's FY 2001 budget includes \$5 million for One America dialogues to promote and facilitate discussions on racial diversity and understanding.

An Administration that Looks Like One America. The President has appointed the most diverse Cabinet and Administration in history. African Americans make up twelve percent of the Clinton Cabinet, including: Rodney Slater, Secretary of the Department of Transportation; Togo West, Jr., Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Alexis Herman, Secretary of Labor. Additionally, African Americans serve in the Administration as Surgeon General, Deputy Attorney General for the Department of Justice, Director of the National Park Service, Deputy Secretary of Commerce, Assistant Secretary at the Department of Education, Chair of the Railroad Retirement Board, and Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa.

Increasing the Number of Judicial Appointments. President Clinton has named 14 African Americans as U.S. Attorneys and 12 African Americans as U.S. Marshals. The President has nominated 67 African Americans to the Federal bench, 17 percent of his total Federal bench nominations. The President has appointed more African Americans to federal judgeships (62 total) than were appointed during the last sixteen years combined (57 total). [White House Fact Sheet, 7/30/00]

Senior Level Administration Appointments. Fourteen percent of Clinton Administration appointees are African American, twice as many as in any previous Administration. White House appointees include: Bob Nash, Assistant to the President and Director of Presidential Personnel; Thurgood Marshall, Jr., Assistant to the President and Director of Cabinet Affairs; Minyon Moore, Assistant to the President and Director of Political Affairs; Terry Edmonds, Assistant to the President and Director of Speechwriting; Mark Lindsey, Assistant to the President for Management and Administration; Ben Johnson, Assistant to the President and Director of the President's Initiative for One America; Broderick Johnson, Deputy Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs; Jake Simmons, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Military Office; and Sharon Farmer, the first African-American to serve as Director of the White House Photography Office.

Ordered an Assessment of Affirmative Action Programs. The President ordered a comprehensive review of the government's affirmative action programs, which concluded that affirmative action is still an effective and important tool to expand educational and economic opportunity to all Americans.

This review of federal affirmative action programs has helped to ensure that these programs are fair and effective and that they can survive legal challenges. As a result, programs that benefit African Americans, including students, working men and women, and business owners, remain in effect and are more likely to be upheld by the courts.

Working to Expand Civil Rights Enforcement. In FY 2000, the President won a 19 percent increase in funding for federal civil rights enforcement, including \$82 million for the Civil Rights Division at the Justice Department. And this year, President Clinton has proposed \$695 million for civil rights enforcement -- a 13 percent increase -- to prosecute criminal civil rights cases (including hate crimes and police misconduct), enforce the American with Disabilities Act, pursue Equal Employment Opportunity Commission employment actions and prevent housing discrimination, and other civil rights enforcement efforts.

Honoring the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In July 1998, President Clinton signed a new measure authorizing the creation of a national monument to Dr. King on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. And in February 2000, during Black History Month, the President unveiled a bust of Dr. King that will be a permanent sculpture in the White House.

Helping Rebuild the City of Princeville. Princeville, North Carolina, is the first city in the United States founded by former slaves. Repeated flooding from the River Tar in recent years has caused damage in Princeville, which was devastated this fall by the particularly severe floods that accompanied Hurricane Floyd. In February 2000, President Clinton created the President's Council on the Future of Princeville, North Carolina. The Council will bring together representatives from twelve Federal agencies and the Cabinet to work with elected officials, the private sector, community and non-profit groups to recommend measures the Administration can take to help repair and rebuild Princeville and, to the extent possible, protect the town from future floods.

Opposed California Prop. 209 and Similar Measures. The Clinton-Gore Administration strongly opposes state and local initiatives to eliminate affirmative action programs that expand opportunities for African Americans and others. The Administration filed *amicus* briefs opposing Proposition 209 in California, which currently prohibits state affirmative action programs. The Administration opposed similar initiatives in Houston, which was defeated, and Washington. In all these cases, representatives of the administration spoke out strongly against these initiatives as unfair and a barrier to equality.

Ensuring Election Fairness. The Clinton Administration defended racially fair redistricting plans against claims that they were unconstitutional and prevented election day discrimination against minority voters and voter intimidation and harassment by monitoring polling place activities in a record number of states and counties.

Increasing Voter Registration. Since 1995, the National Voter Registration Act or "Motor Voter" law has registered nearly 28 million new voters and made voting easier for millions more. [FEC, 6/99; FEC, 6/97]

Doubling the Number of Fair Housing Enforcement Actions. To respond to the increase in

reported cases of serious fair housing violations, HUD has committed \$37 million to 67 fair housing centers around the country to assist in fighting housing discrimination. In FY 2000, the President won \$44 million to fight housing discrimination, which includes \$6 million to continue the audit-based fair housing enforcement initiative started last year. The audit will include 3,000 to 5,000 tests for housing discrimination. HUD will provide funds to local non-profit groups and enforcement agencies to monitor and act against housing discrimination. The Clinton-Gore Administration filed 3,660 cases between 1993 and June 2000 to enforce fair housing laws -- more than any other Administration, with double number the cases in the President's second term than in the first. For instance, the Administration desegregated a Vidor, Texas, public housing complex and ordered a Mississippi bank to implement remedial lending plans for minority customers who were unfairly denied loans by the bank.

Working to Ensure Fairness and Remove Barriers to High Quality Education. The Office for Civil Rights in the Department of Education is working to eliminate discriminatory educational practices within schools that contribute to deficiencies in minority student achievement. These priorities included the inappropriate placement of minority students in special education, limited access of minority students to challenging curricula and programs such as gifted and honors classes and the lack of comparable resources.

Eliminated Discriminatory "Redlining" Practices. The Clinton-Gore Administration negotiated agreements with health care agencies to eliminate discriminatory "redlining" practices denying home health care services based on residential location.

Apologized to the Victims of Tuskegee. President Clinton apologized to the victims of the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment and their families, and directed Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala to issue a report about how best to involve communities, especially minority communities, in research and health care. HHS awarded a planning grant to Tuskegee University to help it establish a center for bioethics in research and health care.

Righting Past Wrongs. In February 2000, President Clinton granted a pardon on the charge of draft evasion to Preston King, a Georgia native who fled the country in 1961 rather than enlist in the Army because an all-white draft board refused to call him "Mister" once it learned he was black. King had told the draft board he would enlist if it addressed him with the same title reserved for whites. President Clinton granted a posthumous pardon to Henry O. Flipper, a former slave who in 1877 became the first African-American graduate of West Point. In what was apparently a racial incident, a white officer accused Flipper of stealing \$2,561 -- he was cleared by a military court, but discharged dishonorably. The President granted the pardon in February 1999.

Working to Ensure a Fair, Accurate and Complete Census. The Clinton-Gore Administration is working to ensure that Census 2000 is as accurate as possible using the best, most up-to-date scientific methods as recommended by the National Academy of Sciences. The 1990 Census had an undercount of 8.4 million and 4.4 percent of African Americans were not counted. A fair and accurate Census is a fundamental part of a representative democracy and is the basis for providing equality under the law.

The President and Vice President are determined to have a fair and full count in 2000, and in February 2000 the President announced new steps to encourage all Americans to participate in Census 2000. The President launched a *Census in Schools Challenge*, to ensure that children are counted and educate both students and parents; reiterated that Census information is strictly confidential; and directed federal agencies to step up activities in support of the Census.

Improving Our Nation's Health

Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities. In 1998, President Clinton announced an initiative to end racial and ethnic health disparities. The effort sets a national goal of eliminating the longstanding disparities by the year 2010 in six key health areas: infant mortality, diabetes, cancer, heart disease, HIV/AIDS and immunizations. In the FY 1999 budget, Congress took a critical first step in investing in the President's multi-year proposal and in FY 2000 provided an additional \$20 million in funding, a 200 percent increase. Working with minority public health providers, advocates, and other consumer representatives, the FY 2001 budget includes \$35 million for the Centers for Disease Control to continue demonstration programs to enable select communities to develop innovative and effective approaches to address these disparities.

Addressing HIV/AIDS in Minority Communities. Racial and ethnic communities make up the fastest growing portion of HIV/AIDS cases (more than 50 percent of all new HIV cases). In FY 2000, the President builds on the progress started last year with a \$251 million investment in a comprehensive initiative that will improve prevention efforts in high-risk communities and expand access to cutting edge HIV therapies and other treatment needed for HIV/AIDS in minority communities. The President's FY 2001 budget includes \$274 million to continue this effort.

Focused Health Efforts. The Clinton-Gore Administration established the Office of the Minority Health Research and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health. The Administration also helped communities develop culturally-competent systems for the care of children with serious emotional disturbances through the Comprehensive Mental Health Services for Children and Families program.

Working to Enact a Strong, Enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights for All Americans. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have called on the Congress to pass a strong, enforceable patients' bill of rights that assures Americans the quality health care they need. The bill should include important patient protections such as: assuring direct access to specialists; real emergency room protections; continuity of care provisions that protect patients from abrupt changes in treatment; a fair, timely, and independent appeals process for patient grievances; and enforcement provisions to make these rights real. Leading by example, the President directed all federal agencies to ensure that their employees and beneficiaries have the benefits and rights guaranteed under the President's proposed Patients' Bill of Rights.

Enacted Most Comprehensive Medicare Reforms in History, Benefiting the 3.4 Million African Americans Enrolled in Medicare. In the 1997 Balanced Budget, protected, modernized and extended the life of the Medicare Trust Fund while offering new options for patient choice and preventive care.

New preventive benefits passed include coverage of annual mammograms, coverage of screening tests for both colorectal and cervical cancer, and a diabetes self-management benefit. Proposed a plan to reform and modernize Medicare's benefits, including an optional prescription drug benefit that is affordable and available to all beneficiaries. In March 1999, the Medicare Trustees reported that the life of the Medicare Trust Fund has been extended until 2025. In 1993, Medicare was expected to run out of money in 1999.

Extended Health Care to Millions of Children with the Children's Health Insurance Program.

In the Balanced Budget of 1997, President Clinton won \$24 billion to provide health care coverage to up to five million uninsured children. In October 1999 the President announced new outreach efforts to enroll millions of eligible, uninsured children. This year, the budget includes several of Vice President Gore's proposals to accelerate enrollment of children in CHIP. The President and Vice President are also proposing a new FamilyCare program, which would give States the option to cover parents in the same plan as their children. African American children make up 25 percent of all uninsured children -- more than twice their percentage of the overall population.

Nutrition for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). President Clinton won over \$4 billion to provide access to health care, supplemental foods, nutrition and breastfeeding education to 7.3 million women, infants, and children -- 1.4 million more than in 1993 -- through the WIC program. Research shows that every \$1 increase in the prenatal care portion of the WIC program cuts between \$1.77 and \$3.90 in medical expenses in the first 60 days following childbirth. In 1996, 25 percent of the infants and 24 percent of the children who benefited from WIC were African American.

Providing Access to Health Care Services for Uninsured Workers. Last year, the President proposed and won \$25 million in funding for a program to coordinate systems of care, increase the number of services delivered and establish an accountability system to assure adequate patient care for the uninsured and low-income. This year, the President has proposed funding this initiative at \$125 million, representing a substantial down payment on his plan to invest \$1 billion over 5 years.

Raised Immunization Rates to All Time High. Since 1993, childhood immunization rates have reached all-time highs, with 90 percent or more of America's toddlers receiving the most critical doses of vaccines for children by age 2. For the most critical childhood vaccines, vaccination levels are nearly the same for preschool children of all racial and ethnic groups, narrowing a gap that was estimated to be as wide as 26 percentage points a generation ago. With childhood vaccination levels at an all-time high, disease and death from diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and Hib are at or near record lows. [HHS Fact Sheet, 9/23/99; HHS Fact Sheet, 12/31/99]

Expanding Coverage to Uninsured Americans. The President and Vice President have proposed a 10-year, \$110 billion initiative that would dramatically improve the affordability of and access to health insurance. The proposal would expand coverage to at least 5 million uninsured Americans and expand access to millions more. If enacted, these policies would be the largest expansion of coverage since Medicare was created in 1965.

Investing in Education

Largest Investment in Education in Thirty Years. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have been committed to maintaining our nation's investment in education. The Clinton-Gore Administration enacted the largest investment in education in 30 years – and the largest investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill by doubling student aid to nearly \$60 billion.

Established the First African American Advisory Board. President Clinton established the President's Board of Advisors for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to strengthen the capacity of historically black colleges and universities to provide quality education and advised on ways to increase the private sector's role in these institutions. In addition, the Office for Civil Rights at the Department of Education has been vigilant in its efforts to expand college opportunities through enforcement to eliminate vestiges of discrimination in formerly racially segregated higher education systems. The Office for Civil Rights at Education works to ensure minority student access to higher education, impacting both HBCUs and historically white universities.

Increased Funding and Grants for HBCUs. The Clinton-Gore Administration increased funding for Historically Black Colleges by over \$260 million between FY 1992 and FY 2000. Today, America's 105 HBCUs are educating almost 300,000 African Americans.

AmeriCorps College Support. Since 1993, more than 150,000 people have had the opportunity to serve through AmeriCorps, with African Americans comprising 23 percent of all participants. In 1999, nearly 50,000 young people had the opportunity to serve and earn an award of up to \$4,725 to pay for college or repay student loans.

Expanding Investments in Youth Education and Training. While House Republicans attempted to eliminate the successful Summer Jobs program in FY 1999, President Clinton prevailed with his request for \$871 million in funding, which provided about 483,000 summer jobs for disadvantaged youth. That same year the President signed into law the Workforce Investment Act, consolidating the funding streams of the summer jobs and year-round training programs and increasing local flexibility to design youth job training programs. The Youth Opportunity Grants program provides high school dropouts between the ages of 16 and 24 with academic and job-skills training, as well as apprenticeships building and rehabilitating affordable housing. The President proposed and won \$250 million for the second year of funding for this innovative program in FY 2000, allowing the program to serve up to 58,000 of the most disadvantaged young people in high poverty areas.

Record Enrollment. 66 percent of high school graduates went on to college in 1998, compared to 60 percent in 1990. The percentage of African American high school graduates enrolling in college increased from 48 percent in 1992 to 59 percent in 1997 -- the highest number ever.

Enacted Hope Scholarships and Lifetime Learning Tax Credits. President Clinton proposed and passed the HOPE Scholarships and Lifetime Learning tax credits, which in 1999 were claimed by an

estimated 10 million American families struggling to pay for college. The Hope Scholarship helps make the first two years of college universally available by providing a tax credit of up to \$1,500 for tuition and fees for the first two years of college. The Lifetime Learning tax credit provides a 20 percent tax credit on the first \$5,000 of tuition and fees for students beyond the first two years of college, or taking classes part-time (in 2003, this increases to \$10,000 of tuition and fees). In his FY 2001 budget, the President has proposed expanding the Lifetime Learning tax credit with a College Opportunity tax cut, which will give families the option of taking a tax deduction or claiming a 28 percent credit for the first \$5,000 of college tuition and fees through 2002, and \$10,000 thereafter.

Expanding Work Study and Pell Grants. One million students will be able to work their way through college because of the President's expansion of the Work Study Program, and nearly four million students will receive a Pell Grant of up to \$3,300, the largest maximum award ever. The maximum award has increased 43 percent under the Clinton-Gore Administration. This year President Clinton proposed a \$77 million increase in Work Study to continue to support one million awards, and a \$200 increase in the Pell Grant maximum award, to raise it to \$3,500.

Dual Degree Programs for Minority-Serving Institutions. The Clinton-Gore Administration has proposed a new program to increase opportunities for students at minority-serving institutions. Students would receive two degrees within five years: one from a minority-serving institution, and one from a partner institution in a field in which minorities are underrepresented. This new \$40 million program will serve an estimated 3,000 students.

Helping Students Finish College. This year the President has proposed new College Completion Challenge Grants to help reduce the college drop-out rate, with pre-freshman summer programs, support services and increased grant aid to students. This \$35 million initiative will improve the chances of success for nearly 18,000 students. Currently, 29 percent of African Americans drop out of college after less than one year, compared to 18 percent of whites.

Fostering Diversity. In 1998, the White House awarded Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring Grants to both individual mentors and institutions that foster mentoring, helping to ensure that America's future scientists and engineers come from all of the nation's racial and cultural segments of the population.

Modernizing Our Schools. This year, the President and Vice President have proposed federal tax credits to pay the interest on nearly \$25 billion in state and local bonds to modernize and rebuild up to 6,000 public schools that are overcrowded, out-of-date, and unsafe. In addition, the Administration's FY 2001 budget includes a new \$1.3 billion school urgent renovation loan and grant proposal to repair 5,000 schools. An estimated \$127 billion is needed to bring America's schools into good overall condition, according to the U.S. Department of Education. Public and elementary enrollment is expected to increase by another million students between 1999 and 2006, to a record 44.4 million elementary and secondary students.

*Here's how
to finish*

More High-Quality Teachers with Smaller Class Sizes. The Clinton-Gore Administration won a second installment of \$1.3 billion for the President's plan to hire an additional 100,000 well-prepared teachers to reduce class size in the early grades, when children learn to read and master the basic skills. Already, 29,000 teachers have been hired through this initiative. This year's budget provides \$1.75 billion, a \$450 million increase -- enough to fund nearly 49,000 teachers. Research shows that minorities, and low-income students in particular, benefit academically from smaller classes.

Providing Safe After-School Opportunities for 850,000 Students Each Year. The 21st Century Community Learning Centers program provides enriching after-school and summer school opportunities for 850,000 school-age children in rural and urban communities in FY 2000. Extended learning time has not only been shown to increase achievement in reading and math, but to decrease youth violence and drug use. Funding for this program more than doubled from FY 1999 to FY 2000. For FY 2001, the President's budget calls on Congress to invest \$1 billion in the 21st Century Program and to ensure that all children in failing schools have access to quality after-school and summer school opportunities. This proposal will double funding and nearly triple the number of students served to 2.5 million.

Teaching Every Child to Read by the 3rd Grade. The President challenged Americans to unite to be sure that every child can read well and independently by the third grade. More than 1,400 colleges and universities joined the President's America Reads Challenge, and 26,700 college work-study students now serve as reading tutors to help every child to read well and independently by the third grade. [Education Department, "Challenging the Status Quo: The Education Record, 1993-2000," 4/00]

Expanding Access to Education Technology. With the Vice President's leadership, the Clinton-Gore Administration has made increasing access to technology a top priority. The President and Vice President created the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund to help connect every school to the Internet, increase the number of multimedia computers in the classroom and provide technology training for teachers. They increased overall investments in educational technology from \$23 million in 1993 to \$769 million in FY 2000, and tripled funding for Community Technology Centers to reach at least 120 low-income communities. Through the E-rate program, they secured low-cost connections to the Internet for schools, libraries, rural health clinics and hospitals, benefiting more than 80 percent of America's public schools. They also increased investment in education research to ensure all children benefit from educational technology. In 1999, 95 percent of public schools were connected to the Internet -- up from just 35 percent in 1994.

Placing High-Quality Teachers in Underserved Areas. President Clinton and Vice President Gore won \$98 million in the FY 2000 budget to enhance teacher quality and attract teachers to high need, high poverty school districts. This year, the President and Vice President have proposed a new \$1 billion teacher quality plan to recruit, train and reward good teachers. The Teaching to High Standards Initiative includes a Hometown Teacher Recruitment program to empower high-poverty school districts to develop programs to recruit homegrown teachers to address the shortage of qualified teachers.

Turning Around Failing Schools. 11 million low-income students now benefit from higher

expectations and a challenging curriculum geared to higher standards through Title I-Aid to Disadvantaged Students. The FY 2000 budget provides a \$134 million accountability fund to help turn around the worst performing schools and hold them accountable for results through such measures as overhauling curriculum, improving staffing, or even closing schools and reopening them as charter schools. This year, the President is proposing to double funding for this fund to turn around the nation's failing schools to ensure all children receive a quality education. In the 1996-97 school year, 28 percent of the children benefiting from Title I were African American.

Providing Early Education to Nearly 900,000 Children with Head Start. The President and Vice President have expanded Head Start funding by 90 percent since 1993. Head Start will reach approximately 880,000 low-income children in FY 2000 and, with the President's proposed increase for the program, will be on the way to reaching the President's goal of serving 1 million children and their families by the year 2002. The Administration also created Early Head Start, bringing Head Start's successful comprehensive services to families with children ages zero to three, and set high quality standards for both programs. In 1998, 36 percent of the children enrolled in Head Start were African American.

Establishing the GEAR-UP Mentoring Program for Middle School Children. President Clinton and Vice President Gore created and expanded GEAR-UP, a nationwide mentoring initiative, to help over 750,000 low-income middle school children finish school and prepare for college. GEAR-UP will expand mentoring efforts by states and provide new grants to partnerships of middle schools, institutions of higher education, and community organizations, to provide intensive early intervention services to help prepare over 750,000 students at high-poverty middle schools for college. The President's FY 2001 budget would expand services to 1.4 million students with a 63 percent increase.

Teaching Job Skills and Building Homes Through "Youthbuild." Through the Youthbuild program, nearly 2,300 high school dropouts have developed valuable job skills while building or renovating homes for hundreds of low-income families. This program offers young adults, ranging in age from 16 to 24, the opportunity to gain leadership skills, earn a high school diploma or GED, learn a valuable trade, and provide much-needed housing to families nationwide. More than \$170 million in grants have been made under Youthbuild since its inception in 1993, enabling over 7,800 young people to take part in building or rehabilitating more than 3,650 houses and apartments units in their communities. The FY 2001 budget increases the investment in Youthbuild by 76 percent to \$75 million, enough to serve about 3,330 trainees.

Strengthening Families and Communities

Helping Parents Balance Work and Family. The Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA) -- the first piece of legislation the President signed into law -- enables workers to take up to 12 weeks unpaid leave to care for a new baby or ailing family member without jeopardizing their job. Since its enactment, millions of Americans have benefited from FMLA, and the President has expanded leave options for Federal employees. President Clinton has called for extending this benefit to 12 million

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more working families and expanding the law to allow workers to take leave for family obligations such as doctors appointments and parent-teacher conferences. Additionally, in his FY 2001 budget, the President is proposing new grants to enable states and regions to develop innovative paid leave options for working parents.

Providing Incentives to Save. President Clinton signed legislation creating Individual Development Accounts, providing incentives for low-income families to save for a first home, higher education, or to start a new business, a key part of his 1992 community empowerment agenda. In FY 1999, \$10 million was awarded to establish savings accounts for over 10,000 low-income workers in 40 communities, and an additional \$10 million will be awarded in FY 2000. The President's budget provides \$25 million for IDAs in FY 2001 and proposes to allow low-income working families to use IDAs to save for a car that will allow them to get or keep a job. [White House Fact Sheet, 10/27/98, White House Fact Sheet, 2/23/00]

Doubled Child Support Collections. President Clinton signed into law the toughest child support crackdown in history. Federal and state child support programs broke new records in 1999, collecting nearly \$16 billion -- double the amount collected in 1992. The number of paternities established rose to a record 1.5 million in 1998 -- more than triple the number from 516,000 in 1992. The number of child support cases with collections rose 59 percent, from 2.8 million 1992 to 4.5 million in 1998. [HHS Release, 1/27/00]

Protecting Rent Subsidies for Low-Income Families. President Clinton won \$10.8 billion in the FY00 budget for the renewal of all Section 8 contracts, an increase of \$1.2 billion from FY 1999. This will ensure continuation of HUD rental subsidies for low-income tenants in privately owned housing. The FY2001 budget requests \$690 million for 120,000 new housing vouchers to help America's hard-pressed working families, building on the 110,000 new vouchers secured in the past two years.

Expanding Low-Income Housing Tax Credit by 40 Percent. In 1993, President Clinton fulfilled his promise to permanently extend the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, spurring the private development of low-income housing and helping to build 75,000-90,000 housing units each year.

Teen Births Down to the Lowest Rate on Record. The teen birth rate has fallen eight years in a row, dropping 20 percent from 1991 to 1999 to the lowest rate in the 60 years data on teen births have been recorded. African Americans experienced greater declines in teen births over this period than any other racial or ethnic group. The teen pregnancy rate is also at the lowest rate on record. To build on this progress, the President's budget includes funding for "second chance homes" for teen parents. [Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics, "Births: Preliminary Data for 1999," 8/8/00; White House Office of the Press Secretary, 08/12/00]

Improved Access to Affordable, Quality Child Care and Early Childhood Programs. Under the Clinton-Gore Administration, federal funding for child care has more than doubled, helping parents pay for the care of about 1.5 million children in 1998, and the 1996 welfare reform law increased child care funding by \$4 billion over six years to provide child care assistance to families moving from welfare to work. Since 1993, the Clinton-Gore Administration has increased funding for the Head Start program by 90 percent, and in FY

2000, the program will serve approximately 880,000 children – over 160,000 more children than in 1993. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have proposed a \$817 million increase in FY 2001 for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, which helps working families struggling to afford child care. These new funds, combined with the child care funds provided in welfare reform, will enable the program to serve over 2.2 million children in 2001.

Making Our Communities Safer

Lowest Crime Rates in a Generation. When President Clinton and Vice President Gore took office in 1993, the violent crime rate in America had more than quadrupled during the previous three decades. Since then, America has experienced the longest continuous drop in crime on record. The overall crime rate is the lowest in 25 years, and in 1999 crime fell for the eighth consecutive year nationwide. Violent crime rate fell 7 percent in 1999 and 27 percent since 1993. Since 1993, the murder rate is down more than 25 percent to its lowest point since 1967, and gun violence has declined by more than 35 percent. Between 1993-1998, decreasing victimization trends were experienced about equally for all race, sex and income groups. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1998 National Crime Victimization Survey; Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports for the United States 1998, 1999; FY 2001 Budget, p. 107]

Putting 100,000 More Police on the Streets. In 1999, ahead of schedule and under budget, the Clinton-Gore Administration met its commitment to fund an additional 100,000 police officers for our communities. As a part of the COPS Program, the President announced a distressed neighborhood grant program to increase community policing in high-crime and underserved neighborhoods. To help keep crime at record lows, in fall 1999, the President won funding for the first installment toward his goal to hire up to 50,000 more officers by 2005. This year, the Clinton-Gore budget includes over \$1 billion to continue the successful COPS initiative to hire more officers, hire new community prosecutors, give police the tools and technology they need to fight crime, and to fund community-wide crime fighting efforts. [Justice Department, COPS Program, 5/12/99; National Economic Council, 11/18/99; FY 2001 Budget, p. 109]

Supervising Released Offenders. Two-thirds of all prisoners are re-arrested for new offenses within three years of release. To combat this problem, President Clinton's FY 2001 budget calls for greater supervision of the 500,000 inmates who will leave prison this year and reenter communities in order to address community safety concerns, lower recidivism rates and promote responsible parenting. This initiative would include \$60 million to create "reentry partnerships" and "reentry courts", complemented by \$75 million for Responsible Reintegration for Young Offenders grants from the Department of Labor and \$10 million for substance abuse and mental health services through the Department of Health and Human Services.

More Than Half a Million Felons, Fugitives and Domestic Abusers Denied Guns. Since taking effect in 1994, the Brady Law has helped to prevent more than 536,000 felons, fugitives, domestic abusers, and other prohibited purchasers from buying guns. In November 1998, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) took effect under the Brady Law, allowing access to a fuller set of records that law enforcement officials can use to conduct checks of all prospective gun purchases -- not just for handguns. As of March 2000,

NICS has conducted over 10 million background checks on gun purchasers, and stopped an estimated 179,000 illegal gun sales. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, Background Checks for Firearm Transfers, 1999, 6/00]

Largest Gun Enforcement Initiative in History. This year, President Clinton has proposed the largest gun enforcement initiative ever. The initiative would provide a record \$280 million to add 500 new federal ATF agents and inspectors to target violent gun criminals and illegal gun traffickers that supply guns to criminals and juveniles, and fund over 1,000 new federal, state, and local gun prosecutors to take dangerous gun offenders off the streets. This initiative would also expand the ATF's crime gun tracing program by providing tracing equipment and training to 250 additional law enforcement agencies and by creating the first nationally integrated ballistics testing system. The new ballistics testing system will help law enforcement use the unique "fingerprints" of bullets or shell casings left at the scene of a crime to identify gun criminals -- even in the absence of a firearm. [Justice Department Press Release, 1/18/00]

Coordinating the Federal Government's Response to Youth Violence. In 1999, President Clinton created the White House Council on Youth Violence to coordinate youth violence research and programs throughout the federal government, and to make information derived from the federal government's efforts more accessible to the public. Members of the Council include the Attorney General and the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Education, and Labor, as well as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Working to End Racial Profiling. To help determine where and when racial profiling occurs, President Clinton directed Cabinet agencies to collect data on the race, ethnicity, and gender of individuals subject to certain stops by federal law enforcement. The President has also supported increased resources for police integrity and ethics training and to improve the diversity of local police forces. The President also supports legislation sponsored by Congressman John Conyers to require state and local police forces to collect the same data.

Preventing Hate Crimes. As part of the historic 1994 Crime Act, the President signed the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act which provides for longer sentences where the offense is determined to be a hate crime. The President and Vice President have repeatedly called for passage of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which would strengthen the existing federal hate crimes law. The President's FY 2001 budget includes \$20 million to promote police integrity and for hate crimes training for federal, state, and local law enforcement. President Clinton also hosted the first White House Conference on Hate Crimes, which examined laws and remedies that can make a difference in preventing hate crimes, highlighted solutions that are working in communities across the country, and continued the frank and open dialogue needed to build One America.

Took Action Against Church Burnings. President Clinton and Vice President Gore focused the nation's attention and resources to help stop the rash of church burnings across the country, prosecuted those responsible, and sped the rebuilding process.

Safe and Clean Environment

Environmental Justice and Redevelopment. In February 1994, President Clinton issued an Executive Order on Environmental Justice to ensure that low-income citizens and minorities do not suffer a disproportionate burden of industrial pollution. The Administration identified pilot projects to be undertaken across the country to redevelop contaminated sites in low-income communities, turn them into useable space, create jobs and enhance community development. [Executive Order 12898, 2/11/94]

Accelerating Toxic Cleanups and Brownfields Redevelopment. The Clinton-Gore Administration has cleaned up over 530 Superfund sites -- nearly three times as many in six years as the previous administrations did in twelve -- with clean up of more than 90 percent of all sites either completed or in progress. The Administration's brownfields initiative has generated 6,400 jobs, and leveraged over \$2.3 billion in private sector investment for brownfields redevelopment. [EPA, Construction Completions at National Priorities List Sites, as of 7/27/00; EPA, www.epa.gov, 8/23/00]

Keeping Our Drinking Water Safe. The President proposed and signed legislation to strengthen the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure that our families have healthy, clean tap water. The Clinton-Gore Administration has required America's 55,000 water utilities to provide regular reports to their customers on the quality of their drinking water. The Administration significantly tightened the arsenic standard, providing additional protection to at least 22.5 million Americans from cancer and other health problems. The Administration has adopted or proposed new standards to provide the first-ever protection against waterborne illness like Cryptosporidium, potentially preventing more than half a million illnesses each year. The Administration also proposed new rule to reduce dirty runoff and strengthen protections for 20,000 rivers, lakes and other waterways too polluted for swimming and fishing. Ninety-one percent of America's tap water from community drinking water systems now meets all federal standards. [White House, Office of the Press Secretary, 8/6/96; White House, Council on Environmental Quality, 4/22/99; Environmental Protection Agency, Summary of the 2000 Budget, p. 30; Environmental Protection Agency, Press Release, 5/24/00; White House, Office of the Vice President, 3/28/00]

Clearing the Air of Unhealthy Pollution. The President and Vice President have adopted the toughest standards ever on soot and smog. They proposed significant reductions in tailpipe emissions from cars, light trucks and SUVs, and launched long-term effort to restore pristine skies over our national parks and wilderness areas. Since 1993, the number of Americans living in communities that meet federal air quality standards has grown by 43 million. [White House, Council on Environmental Quality, 5/1/99]

Preserving Our National Treasures. The Clinton-Gore Administration has protected tens of millions of acres, from the red rock canyons of Utah to the Florida Everglades. The Administration reached agreements to protect Yellowstone from mining and save the ancient redwoods of California's Headwaters Forest. In the FY 2000 budget, the President and Vice President won \$651 million (a 42 percent increase) for Lands Legacy, a historic initiative to strengthen federal efforts to preserve national treasures and provides communities with new resources to protect local

green spaces.

American Leadership Abroad

Made a Historic Presidential Trip to Africa. In 1998, President Clinton made the first trip by a sitting U.S. President to Ghana, Uganda, Botswana and Senegal. While in Africa, President Clinton focused on key issues of development, trade, investment, empowerment of women and the environment. The trip increased and enhanced ties with Africa and built upon the work and achievements of the late Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, Transportation Secretary Slater and Presidential Special Envoy Jesse Jackson.

Assisted South Africa's Transition to Democracy. The Clinton-Gore Administration provided over \$600 million in the first three years to the newly-elected democratic government of South Africa to support democracy and development. Established the Gore-Mbeki Bi-National Commission to promote cooperation in trade, development, the environment and security.

Hosted the First-Ever White House Conference on Africa in July 1994. This Conference brought together key American policy-makers and leaders to discuss the future of US-Africa relations.

Supporting transition to democracy in Nigeria and mediating peace efforts in Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, Sierra Leone, Burundi, and Ethiopia-Eritrea.

Restored democracy in Haiti, ending military dictatorship and stopping refugee flows.

Launched the President's Partnership for Economic Opportunity in Africa Initiative. This initiative deepens trade and investment between Africa and the United States and is the cornerstone of the Administration's Africa policy. The President enacted the bipartisan African Growth and Opportunity Act which complements his "Partnership Initiative" by further strengthening U.S.-Africa trade relations.

Mobilizing Resources to Fight Disease. The Clinton-Gore Administration is mobilizing leadership and resources – including the development of new vaccines – to fight AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, which threaten development, economic growth, stability and security.

August 2000

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PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE
Working on Behalf of Asian Pacific Americans

Expanding Economic Opportunity

Moving From Record Deficits to Record Surplus. In 1992, the deficit was \$290 billion, a record dollar high. In 2000, we have a projected budget surplus of \$211 billion -- the third consecutive surplus and the largest surplus ever, even after adjusting for inflation. This is the first time we have had three surpluses in a row in more than a half century.

More Than 22 Million New Jobs. 22.1 million new jobs have been created since 1993, the most jobs ever created under a single Administration -- and more new jobs than Presidents Reagan and Bush created during their three terms. 92 percent (20 million) of the new jobs have been created in the private sector, the highest percentage in 50 years. [National Economic Council, 7/29/00]

Unemployment is Nearly the Lowest in Over Three Decades. Unemployment is down from 7.5 percent in 1992 to 4.0 percent in June 2000, nearly the lowest in more than three decades. The unemployment rate has fallen for seven years in a row, and has remained below 5 percent for 36 months in a row -- three full years.

High Median Household Income for Asian Pacific Americans. In 1998, the median household income for Asian Pacific Americans was \$46,600 -- higher than the national median income.

Asian Pacific American Poverty Declines. The poverty rate of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders has declined from 15.3 percent in 1993 to 12.5 percent in 1998. While this marks significant progress, President Clinton will continue to fight for policies that help to raise incomes and reduce poverty.

Tax Cuts For Working Families. President Clinton's 1993 Economic Plan provided tax cuts to 15 million hard-pressed working families by expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The average family with two children who received the EITC received a tax cut of \$1,026. In 1998, the EITC lifted 4.3 million Americans out of poverty. This year the President has proposed expanding the EITC to provide tax relief to 6.8 million additional working families.

Minimum Wage Increased. The President raised the minimum wage to \$5.15 an hour. This year, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have called on Congress to pass an additional \$1.00 per hour increase in the minimum wage.

Saving Social Security. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have coupled fiscal discipline with a commitment to preserve and protect Social Security. Under the Clinton-Gore Administration, the life of the Social Security trust fund has been extended to 2037. President Clinton has proposed extending the program's solvency to at least 2054 by paying down the national

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debt and dedicating the interest savings to Social Security. In April 2000, President Clinton signed legislation to eliminate the confusing and out-dated Retirement Earnings Test in order to encourage work and earnings for older Americans. The President has also pushed for measures to strengthen Social Security's benefits to reduce poverty among elderly women. These steps would be a down payment on truly saving Social Security.

Highest Homeownership Rate in History. The homeownership rate reached 67.2 percent in the second quarter of 2000 -- the highest ever recorded. Minority homeownership rates were also the highest ever recorded. In contrast, the homeownership rate *fell* from 65.6 percent in the first quarter of 1981 to 63.7 percent in the first quarter of 1993. There are almost 9 million more homeowners than in 1993. [Bureau of the Census, 7/26/00]

Over Three and a Half Times the Number of Small Business Loans. Between 1993 and 2000 the Small Business Administration (SBA) approved more than 30,200 loans to Asian Pacific American entrepreneurs under the 7(a), 504, and Microloan programs [as of 3/17/00]. In 1999 alone, the SBA granted 5,655 loans worth over \$2.1 billion to Asian Pacific American businesses, more than three and a half times the number of loans granted in 1992.

Ensuring Minority Business Owners Have a Fair Opportunity to Compete. The President signed the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century into law on June 9, 1998. The Act protects the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, a program that ensures that minority and women-owned businesses have an opportunity to compete for transportation projects. The Administration helped defeat an amendment to the House version of this bill that would have eliminated the DBE Program. In a different measure, the President also approved the creation of a new program to target assistance to minority-owned businesses in industries that continue to reflect the effects of discrimination. As a result, thousands of minority-owned businesses will be able to compete more effectively for government contracts.

Expanding Investment in Urban and Rural Areas. Spurring economic development in distressed communities, the Clinton-Gore Administration has created 31 Empowerment Zones and more than 100 Enterprise Communities, including 50 rural ECs, which are creating new jobs, new opportunities and stronger communities. This would have a dramatic effect in the areas with high unemployment, weak economies, shortages of affordable housing and other problems. The President won \$70 million in funding for Rural and Urban Empowerment Zones in FY 2000 -- after Congress initially provided no funding. On July 25, 2000, the House passed a bipartisan agreement that would extend and expand the incentives in the existing EZs, as well as create nine new Round 3 Empowerment Zones. The Administration's agreement with Speaker Hastert also includes a first-time commitment for additional funding for Round 2 EZs.

Encouraging Investment in Underserved Communities with the New Markets Initiative. President Clinton's New Markets Initiative will help bring economic development and renewal to communities that have not benefited from the soaring economy by spurring more than \$22 billion in

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new investment in urban and rural areas. On July 25, 2000, the House passed the President's New Markets Initiative in a historic bipartisan agreement that included extension and expansion of Empowerment Zones, and an increase in the Low Income Housing Tax Credit. The President has taken three New Markets Tours of underserved communities, which have helped generate more than \$1 billion in private sector investment commitments.

Expanding Access to Capital with Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI).

Proposed and signed into law by the President in 1994, the CDFI Fund, through grants, loans and equity investments, is helping to create a network of community development financial institutions in distressed areas across the United States. In FY 1999, funding was increased 19 percent to \$95 million from \$80 million. President Clinton successfully worked to maintain that investment in FY 2000. In FY 2001, the President is proposing \$125 million.

Closing the Digital Divide. Increasing access to technology and bridging the digital divide has been a top priority for President Clinton and Vice President Gore. To help make access to computers and the Internet as universal as the telephone, the Clinton-Gore Administration is proposing a comprehensive initiative to bridge the digital divide and create new opportunity for all Americans. Their FY 2001 budget includes proposals to: broaden access to technologies such as computers, the Internet, and high-speed networks; provide people the skilled teachers and the training they need to master the information economy; and promote online content and applications that will help empower all Americans to use new technologies to their fullest potential.

Taking Executive Action to Bridge the Digital Divide. In December 1999, President Clinton directed the Cabinet to take specific actions to close the digital divide, such as expanding Community Technology Centers in low-income neighborhoods, continuing to measure the extent of the digital divide, and helping low-income workers gain the skills needed to compete for high-paying information technology jobs. The President also announced the launch of the Digital Divide Network, an Internet-based information clearinghouse on public and private efforts to bring technology to underserved communities; and the formation of the Digital Opportunity Partnership, an alliance between the private sector and civil and human rights organizations to bring high technology to the doorstep of nonprofit organizations. He also announced a commitment by the Congress of National Black Churches to make the digital divide a top civil rights priority.

Increasing Lending to Minority and Women Producers. The Agriculture Department is strengthening programs and increasing outreach targeted to underserved communities, including increasing its lending to minority and women producers. In FY 1992, USDA made 961 loans worth \$53.9 million to minority farmers. In FY 1999, that increased to 4,005 loans worth \$296 million. [1999 Annual Report of the Secretary of Agriculture; Department of Agriculture]

International Business Affairs

Facing the Challenges of the Global Economy. The President's strategy of fiscal discipline,

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investment in our people, and open trade is working for America. For the U.S. economy to continue to prosper, the economies of the world need to rebound from their recent difficulties. The United States is working with other leading nations to intensify efforts to speed economic recovery in Asia.

Expanding Exports and Creating Jobs. Since President Clinton took office, the Administration has concluded nearly 300 new trade agreements. This export expansion has accounted for more than one-quarter of the record U.S. economic growth between 1992 and 1998 and has helped created jobs that, on average, pay 15 percent more than non-export related jobs. Thirty percent of U.S. exports go to Asia; this country exports more goods to Asia than Europe.

Created Three Major Global Trade Agreements In the World Trade Organization. In the last year, this Administration completed a “trifecta” of three major global trade agreements in the World Trade Organization: the Information Technology Agreement covering \$500 billion in global trade and more than \$100 billion in U.S. exports, the global telecommunications services agreement (which will create more than a million jobs in the next ten years) and the financial services accord (which covers 95 percent of the global financial services market). Together, these initiatives cover trade totaling more than \$1 trillion annually.

Historic U.S.-China Trade Agreement. After 13 years of negotiation, the Clinton Administration reached an historic trade agreement that will open China's markets to American goods and hold the Chinese government to international standards. The agreement will significantly lower Chinese tariffs, and ensure fair treatment for both American businesses in China and American workers here at home. The agreement is a crucial step toward China's accession into the World Trade Organization.

Eliminated Barriers To Open Trade In Asia Pacific Nations From Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit. Secured commitments from Asian Pacific nations to eliminate barriers to open trade in the region by 2020 for developing countries and 2010 for industrialized countries. Over the next two years, 15 sectors will be identified for tariff reductions, including energy products and services, environmental technologies and services, natural resources, medical equipment, telecommunications, gems and jewelry.

Fighting For Equal Opportunity

Building One America. The President has led the nation in an effort to become One America in the 21st Century: a place where we respect others' differences and, at the same time, embrace the common values that unite us. Angela Oh served on the Advisory Board to the President's Initiative on Race, which the President charged with overseeing this effort. The President, the Administration and the Advisory Board were actively involved in public outreach efforts -- including holding numerous public meetings and town halls -- to engage Americans across the nation in this historic effort. One of the critical elements of the President's Initiative on Race was identifying, highlighting and sharing with the nation promising local and national efforts to promote racial reconciliation. The Advisory Board presented their final report to the President on September 18, 1998, and recommended that conversations on race continue. President Clinton appointed Robert B. (Ben) Johnson as

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Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office on the President's Initiative for One America, a new office the President created to follow up on the work of his Initiative on Race. The President's FY 2001 budget includes \$5 million for One America dialogues to promote and facilitate discussions on racial diversity and understanding.

An Administration that Looks like One America. President Clinton has appointed the most diverse Administration in history, with more Asian Pacific American appointees than any other President. Appointees include: Bill Lann Lee, Acting Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, Department of Justice; Nancy Ann-Min DeParle, Administrator of the Health Care Finance Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Robert Wayne Gee, Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, Department of Energy; Paul Igasaki, Vice Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Rose Ochi, Director, Office of Community Relations, Department of Justice; Donna Tanoue, Chair, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Jeanette Takamura, Assistant Secretary for Aging, Department of Health & Human Services; Phyllis Fong, Inspector General, Small Business Administration; and Raj Reddy, Co-Chair, President's Information Technology Advisory Committee. Asian Pacific Americans serving on the President's staff at the White House include Maria Haley, Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Presidential Personnel; Eric Liu, Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of the Domestic Policy Council; Laura Efurd, Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Public Liaison; and Shamina Singh, Executive Director, White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Increasing the Number of Judicial Appointments. President Clinton has nominated more Asian Pacific Americans to the federal bench than any other Administration. His judicial appointments include the Honorable A. Wallace Tashima, Judge, U.S. Ninth Circuit Court and District Court judges Denny Chin, Anthony Ishii, George King, and Susan Oki Mollway.

Improving the Quality of Life of Asian Pacific Americans. In June 1999, the Clinton-Gore Administration issued an Executive Order dedicated to improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans, the first of its kind ever issued. The Executive Order established the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and an interagency working group called the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to advise the President on ways to better serve Asian Pacific Americans by increasing their participation in Federal programs. The Initiative is also working to increase public sector, private sector, and community involvement in improving the health of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Ordered an Assessment of Affirmative Action Programs. The President ordered a comprehensive review of the government's affirmative action programs which concluded that affirmative action is still an effective and important tool to expand educational and economic opportunity to all Americans. This review of federal affirmative action programs has helped to ensure that these programs are fair and effective and that they can survive legal challenges. As a result, programs that benefit women and minorities, including students, working men and women, and business owners, remain in effect and are more likely to be upheld by the courts.

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Working to Expand Civil Rights Enforcement. In FY 2000, the President won a six percent increase in funding for federal civil rights enforcement agencies including \$82 million for the Civil Rights Division at the Justice Department, a 19 percent increase. And this year, President Clinton has proposed \$698 million for civil rights enforcement -- a 13 percent increase -- to prosecute criminal civil rights cases (including hate crimes and police misconduct), enforce the American with Disabilities Act, pursue Equal Employment Opportunity Commission employment actions and prevent housing discrimination, and other civil rights enforcement efforts.

Opposed California Prop. 209 and Similar Measures. The Clinton-Gore Administration strongly opposes state and local initiatives to eliminate affirmative action programs that expand opportunities for African Americans and others. The Administration filed *amicus* briefs opposing Proposition 209 in California, which currently prohibits state affirmative action programs. The Administration opposed similar initiatives in Houston, which was defeated, and Washington. In all these cases, representatives of the administration spoke out strongly against these initiatives as unfair and a barrier to equality.

Opposed California Proposition 187. The Administration opposed California's Proposition 187, which would have made illegal immigrants ineligible for public school education at all levels and ineligible for public health care services.

Ensuring Election Fairness. The Clinton Administration defended racially fair redistricting plans against claims that they were unconstitutional and prevented election day discrimination against minority voters and voter intimidation and harassment by monitoring polling place activities in a record number of states and counties. The Administration has continued enforcement efforts to ensure that citizens who rely on languages other than English have the same opportunities to participate in voting-related activities as English-speaking voters.

Increasing Voter Registration. Since 1995, the National Voter Registration Act or "Motor Voter" law has registered nearly 28 million new voters and made voting easier for millions more. [FEC, 6/99; FEC, 6/97]

Doubling the Number of Fair Housing Enforcement Actions. To respond to the increase in reported cases of serious fair housing violations, HUD has committed \$37 million to 67 fair housing centers around the country to assist in fighting housing discrimination. In FY 2000, the President won \$44 million to fight housing discrimination, which includes \$6 million to continue the audit-based fair housing enforcement initiative started last year. The audit will include 3,000 to 5,000 tests for housing discrimination. HUD will provide funds to local non-profit groups and enforcement agencies to monitor and act against housing discrimination. The Clinton-Gore Administration filed 3,660 cases between 1993 and June 2000 to enforce fair housing laws -- more than any other Administration, with double number the cases in the President's second term than in the first. For instance, the Administration desegregated a Vidor, Texas, public housing complex and ordered a Mississippi bank to implement remedial lending plans for minority customers who were unfairly denied loans by the bank.

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Eliminated Discriminatory “Redlining” Practices. The Clinton Administration negotiated agreements with health care agencies to eliminate discriminatory “redlining” practices denying home health care services based on residential location.

Working to Ensure a Fair, Accurate and Complete Census. The Clinton-Gore Administration is working to ensure that Census 2000 is as accurate as possible using the best, most up-to-date scientific methods as recommended by the National Academy of Sciences. The 1990 Census had an undercount of 8.4 million and 2.3 percent of Asian Pacific Americans were not counted. A fair and accurate Census is a fundamental part of a representative democracy and is the basis for providing equality under the law. The President and Vice President are determined to have a fair and full count in 2000, and in February 2000 the President announced new steps to encourage all Americans to participate in Census 2000. The President launched a *Census in Schools Challenge*, to ensure that children are counted and educate both students and parents; reiterated that Census information is strictly confidential; and directed federal agencies to step up activities in support of the Census.

Immigration

Welcoming New Americans. Since 1993, the United States has welcomed nearly 4.4 million new American citizens. Faced with this unprecedented number of applications, the Clinton-Gore Administration undertook an initiative that has significantly reduced the backlog of citizenship applications and is restoring timely processing while at the same time maintaining the integrity of the process. The INS is on track to meet its goal of reducing this backlog by completing 1.3 million applications this fiscal year while maintaining the highest levels of quality and integrity.

Ensuring Consistency and Efficiency in the Current Naturalization System. On July 4, 2000, the President directed the INS to develop a plan to redesign and standardize the current citizenship testing process. Currently, different areas of the country use testing methods and standards for reading and writing of the English language and U.S. history and government. This plan will help guarantee a consistent test and testing process is available and administered nationwide.

English Literacy/Civics Initiative. The Clinton-Gore FY 2001 budget includes \$75 million for the English Language/Civics Initiative -- a nearly \$50 million increase to help an additional estimated 250,000 limited English proficient (LEP) individuals. This program helps states and communities provide LEP individuals with expanded access to quality English-language instruction linked to civics and life skills instruction, including understanding the U.S. government system, the public education system, the workplace, and other key institutions of American life.

Seeking Fairness for Immigrants. The President is urging Congress to pass legislation to restructure the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to improve services, to ensure equitable treatment of Central American and Haitian migrants under immigration laws, to allow long-term migrants to adjust their immigration status, and to correct the most egregious impacts of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996.

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Defended Immigrant Rights. The Clinton-Gore Administration defeated legislative efforts that would have significantly eroded health care for immigrants. The bipartisan agreement strengthened the sponsorship requirement while preserving the basic ability of families to reunify.

Restoring Benefits to Legal Immigrants. The President believes that legal immigrants should have the same economic opportunity, and bear the same responsibility, as other members of society. In the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and the Agricultural Research Act of 1998, the President fought for and succeeded in reversing unfair cuts in benefits to legal immigrants. The FY 2001 budget builds on the Administration's progress of restoring these important benefits by providing \$2.5 billion over five years to allow states to provide health care to certain legal immigrant children and their families and pregnant women, to restore SSI eligibility to legal immigrants with disabilities, and to restore Food Stamp eligibility to certain aged immigrants and to legal immigrants who live in a household with Food Stamp eligible children.

Assuring Families Access to Health Care and Other Benefits. In May 1999, the Vice President announced new actions to assure families that enrolling in Medicaid or the new Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and receiving other critical benefits, such as school lunch and child care services, will not affect their immigration status. The new Department of Justice regulation clarifies a widespread misconception that has deterred eligible populations from enrolling in these programs and undermined the nation's public health. In addition, the Vice President directed Federal agencies to send guidance to their field offices, program grantees and to work with community organizations to educate Americans about this new policy.

Improving Our Nation's Health

Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities. In 1998, President Clinton announced an initiative to end racial and ethnic health disparities. The effort sets a national goal of eliminating the longstanding disparities by the year 2010 in six key health areas: infant mortality, diabetes, cancer, heart disease, HIV/AIDS and immunizations. In the FY 1999 budget, Congress took a critical first step in investing in the President's multi-year proposal and in FY 2000 provided an additional \$20 million in funding, a 200 percent increase. Working with minority public health providers, advocates, and other consumer representatives, the FY 2001 budget includes \$35 million for the Centers for Disease Control to continue demonstration programs to enable select communities to develop innovative and effective approaches to address these disparities.

Focused Health Efforts. The Clinton-Gore Administration established the Office of Research on Minority Health and the National Center for Complimentary and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health. The Administration also helped communities develop culturally-competent systems for the care of children with serious emotional disturbances through the Comprehensive Mental Health Services for Children and Families program.

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Working to Enact a Strong, Enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights for All Americans. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have called on the Congress to pass a strong, enforceable patients' bill of rights that assures Americans the quality health care they need. The bill should include important patient protections such as: assuring direct access to specialists; real emergency room protections; continuity of care provisions that protect patients from abrupt changes in treatment; a fair, timely, and independent appeals process for patient grievances; and enforcement provisions to make these rights real. Leading by example, the President directed all federal agencies to ensure that their employees and beneficiaries have the benefits and rights guaranteed under the President's proposed Patients' Bill of Rights.

Enacted Most Comprehensive Medicare Reforms in History. In the 1997 Balanced Budget, protected, modernized and extended the life of the Medicare Trust Fund while offering new options for patient choice and preventive care. New preventive benefits passed include coverage of annual mammograms, coverage of screening tests for both colorectal and cervical cancer, and a diabetes self-management benefit. Proposed a plan to reform and modernize Medicare's benefits, including an optional prescription drug benefit that is affordable and available to all beneficiaries. In March 1999, the Medicare Trustees reported that the life of the Medicare Trust Fund has been extended until 2025. In 1993, Medicare was expected to run out of money in 1999.

Nutrition for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). President Clinton won over \$4 billion to provide access to health care, supplemental foods, nutrition and breastfeeding education to 7.3 million women, infants, and children -- 1.4 million more than in 1993 -- through the WIC program. Research shows that every \$1 increase in the prenatal care portion of the WIC program cuts between \$1.77 and \$3.90 in medical expenses in the first 60 days following childbirth. In 1996, 2.8 percent of the infants and 2.9 percent of the children who benefited from WIC were Asian American.

Extended Health Care to Millions of Children with the Children's Health Insurance Program. In the Balanced Budget of 1997, President Clinton won \$24 billion to provide health care coverage to up to five million uninsured children. The Administration is actively reaching out to communities to target and enroll eligible, uninsured children in CHIP and in October 1999 the President announced new outreach efforts. Asian Pacific American children make up 15.8 percent of all uninsured children. This year, the budget includes several of Vice President Gore's proposals to accelerate enrollment of children in CHIP. The President and Vice President are also proposing a new FamilyCare program, which would give States the option to cover parents in the same plan as their children.

Providing Access to Health Care Services for Uninsured Workers. Last year, the President proposed and won \$25 million in funding for a program to coordinate systems of care, increase the number of services delivered and establish an accountability system to assure adequate patient care for the uninsured and low-income. This year, the President has proposed funding this initiative at \$125 million, representing a substantial down payment on the his plan to invest \$1 billion over 5 years.

Raised Immunization Rates to All Time High. Since 1993, childhood immunization rates have reached all-time highs, with 90 percent or more of America's toddlers receiving the most critical doses

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of vaccines for children by age 2. For the most critical childhood vaccines, vaccination levels are nearly the same for preschool children of all racial and ethnic groups, narrowing a gap that was estimated to be as wide as 26 percentage points a generation ago. With childhood vaccination levels at an all-time high, disease and death from diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and Hib are at or near record lows. [HHS Fact Sheet, 9/23/99; HHS Fact Sheet, 12/31/99]

Expanding Coverage to Uninsured Americans. The President and Vice President have proposed a 10-year, \$110 billion initiative that would dramatically improve the affordability of and access to health insurance. The proposal would expand coverage to at least 5 million uninsured Americans and expand access to millions more. If enacted, these policies would be the largest expansion of coverage since Medicare was created in 1965.

Providing Health Care to Children and Pregnant Women. Under current law, states have the option to provide health coverage to immigrant children and pregnant women who entered the country before August 22, 1996. The President's FY 2001 Budget gives states the option to extend Medicaid or CHIP coverage to low-income legal immigrant children and Medicaid to pregnant women who entered the country after August 22, 1996. The proposal would cost \$695 million and provide critical health insurance to approximately 144,000 children and 33,000 women by FY 2005. This proposal would reduce the number of high-risk pregnancies, ensure healthier children, and lower the cost of emergency Medicaid deliveries. The budget's Medicaid/SCHIP FamilyCare initiative also covers legal immigrant parents of children who are covered by Medicaid or SCHIP.

Investing in Education

Largest Investment in Education in Thirty Years. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have been committed to maintaining our nation's investment in education. The Clinton-Gore Administration enacted the largest investment in education in 30 years – and the largest investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill by doubling student aid to nearly \$60 billion.

Enacted Hope Scholarships and Lifetime Learning Tax Credits. President Clinton proposed and passed the HOPE Scholarships and Lifetime Learning tax credits, which in 1999 were claimed by an estimated 10 million American families struggling to pay for college. The Hope Scholarship helps make the first two years of college universally available by providing a tax credit of up to \$1,500 for tuition and fees for the first two years of college. The Lifetime Learning tax credit provides a 20 percent tax credit on the first \$5,000 of tuition and fees for students beyond the first two years of college, or taking classes part-time (in 2003, this increases to \$10,000 of tuition and fees). In his FY 2001 budget, the President has proposed expanding the Lifetime Learning tax credit with a College Opportunity tax cut, which will give families the option of taking a tax deduction or claiming a 28 percent credit for the first \$5,000 of college tuition and fees through 2002, and \$10,000 thereafter.

Expanding Work Study and Pell Grants. One million students will be able to work their way through college because of the President's expansion of the Work Study Program, and nearly four million students will receive a Pell Grant of up to \$3,300, the largest maximum

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award ever. The maximum award has increased 43 percent under the Clinton-Gore Administration. This year President Clinton proposed a \$77 million increase in Work Study to continue to support one million awards, and a \$200 increase in the Pell Grant maximum award, to raise it to \$3,500.

Fostering Diversity. The White House awarded Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring Grants to both individual mentors and institutions that foster mentoring, helping to ensure that America's future scientists and engineers come from all of the nation's racial and cultural segments of the population.

Modernizing Our Schools. This year, the President and Vice President have proposed federal tax credits to pay the interest on nearly \$25 billion in state and local bonds to modernize and rebuild up to 6,000 public schools that are overcrowded, out-of-date, and unsafe. In addition, the Administration's FY 2001 budget includes a new \$1.3 billion school urgent renovation loan and grant proposal to repair 5,000 schools. An estimated \$127 billion is needed to bring America's schools into good overall condition, according to the U.S. Department of Education. Public and elementary enrollment is expected to increase by another million students between 1999 and 2006, to a record 44.4 million elementary and secondary students.

More High-Quality Teachers with Smaller Class Sizes. The Clinton-Gore Administration won a second installment of \$1.3 billion for the President's plan to hire an additional 100,000 well-prepared teachers to reduce class size in the early grades, when children learn to read and master the basic skills. Already, 29,000 teachers have been hired through this initiative. This year's budget provides \$1.75 billion, a \$450 million increase -- enough to fund nearly 49,000 teachers. Research shows that minorities, and low-income students in particular, benefit academically from smaller classes.

Providing Safe After-School Opportunities for 850,000 Students Each Year. The 21st Century Community Learning Centers program provides enriching after-school and summer school opportunities for 850,000 school-age children in rural and urban communities in FY 2000. Extended learning time has not only been shown to increase achievement in reading and math, but to decrease youth violence and drug use. Funding for this program more than doubled from FY 1999 to FY 2000. For FY 2001, the President's budget calls on Congress to invest \$1 billion in the 21st Century Program and to ensure that all children in failing schools have access to quality after-school and summer school opportunities. This proposal will double funding and nearly triple the number of students served to 2.5 million.

Teaching Every Child to Read by the 3rd Grade. The President challenged Americans to unite to be sure that every child can read well and independently by the third grade. More than 1,400 colleges and universities joined the President's America Reads Challenge, and 26,700 college work-study students now serve as reading tutors to help every child to read well and independently by the third grade. [Education Department, "Challenging the Status Quo: The Education Record, 1993-2000," 4/00]

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Expanding Access to Education Technology. With the Vice President's leadership, the Clinton-Gore Administration has made increasing access to technology a top priority. The President and Vice President created the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund to help connect every school to the Internet, increase the number of multimedia computers in the classroom and provide technology training for teachers. They increased overall investments in educational technology from \$23 million in 1993 to \$769 million in FY 2000, and tripled funding for Community Technology Centers to reach at least 120 low-income communities. Through the E-rate program, they secured low-cost connections to the Internet for schools, libraries, rural health clinics and hospitals, benefiting more than 80 percent of America's public schools. They also increased investment in education research to ensure all children benefit from educational technology. In 1999, 95 percent of public schools were connected to the Internet -- up from just 35 percent in 1994.

Turning Around Failing Schools. 11 million low-income students now benefit from higher expectations and a challenging curriculum geared to higher standards through Title I-Aid to Disadvantaged Students. The FY 2000 budget provides a \$134 million accountability fund to help turn around the worst performing schools and hold them accountable for results through such measures as overhauling curriculum, improving staffing, or even closing schools and reopening them as charter schools. This year, the President is proposing to double funding for this fund to turn around the nation's failing schools to ensure all children receive a quality education. In the 1996-97 school year, 3.3 percent of the children served by Title I were Asian American.

Providing Early Education to Nearly 900,000 Children with Head Start. The President and Vice President have expanded Head Start funding by 90 percent since 1993. Head Start will reach approximately 880,000 low-income children in FY 2000 and, with the President's proposed increase for the program, will be on the way to reaching the President's goal of serving 1 million children and their families by the year 2002. The Administration also created Early Head Start, bringing Head Start's successful comprehensive services to families with children ages zero to three, and set high quality standards for both programs.

Establishing the GEAR-UP Mentoring Program for Middle School Children. President Clinton and Vice President Gore created and expanded GEAR-UP, a nationwide mentoring initiative, to help over 750,000 low-income middle school children finish school and prepare for college. GEAR-UP will expand mentoring efforts by states and provide new grants to partnerships of middle schools, institutions of higher education, and community organizations, to provide intensive early intervention services to help prepare over 750,000 students at high-poverty middle schools for college. The President's FY 2001 budget would expand services to 1.4 million students with a 63 percent increase.

Expanding Investments in Youth Education and Training. While House Republicans attempted to eliminate the successful Summer Jobs program in FY 1999, President Clinton prevailed with his request for \$871 million in funding, which provided about 483,000 summer jobs for disadvantaged youth. That same year the President signed into law the Workforce

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Investment Act, consolidating the funding streams of the summer jobs and year-round training programs and increasing local flexibility to design youth job training programs. The Youth Opportunity Grants program provides high school dropouts between the ages of 16 and 24 with academic and job-skills training, as well as apprenticeships building and rehabilitating affordable housing. The President proposed and won \$250 million for the second year of funding for this innovative program in FY 2000, allowing the program to serve up to 58,000 of the most disadvantaged young people in high poverty areas.

Addressing Minority Needs. Hosted Asian Pacific American Education Forums to address the needs of Asian Pacific American students and their teachers.

AmeriCorps College Support. Since 1993, more than 150,000 people have had the opportunity to serve through AmeriCorps, with Asian Pacific Americans comprising 3 percent of all participants. In 1999, nearly 50,000 young people had the opportunity to serve and earn an award of up to \$4,725 to pay for college or repay student loans.

Helping to Assist Schools with More Foreign Language Programs; Opposing English Only. The Administration has restructured Foreign Language Assistance Programs to assist local schools in establishing programs in Chinese, Japanese and Korean. The Clinton Administration strongly opposes legislation to make English the official language of the United States which would have jeopardized services and programs for non-English speakers and jeopardized assistance to the tens of thousands of new immigrants and others seeking to learn English as adults.

Strengthening Bilingual and Immigrant Education. The President is committed to ensuring that students with limited English skills get the extra help they need in order to learn English and meet the same high standards expected for all students. The Clinton-Gore Administration fought for and won a 35% increase in bilingual and immigrant education in the 1997 budget deal, and won another \$26 million increase in the FY 2000 budget. Bilingual education funding helps school districts teach English to more than a million limited English proficient (LEP) children and helps LEP students to achieve to the same high standards as all other students. It also provides teachers with the training they need to teach limited English proficient students. The Immigrant Education program helps more than a thousand school districts provide supplemental instructional services to more than 800,000 recent immigrant students. In his proposal to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the President has proposed additional help to ensure that all teachers are well-trained to meet the needs of students with Limited English Proficiency. His proposal would also make schools and districts more accountable for helping children with Limited English Proficiency master their academic subjects and learn English. The President's FY 2001 budget increases funding for these programs by an additional \$832 million.

Opposed Gallegly Amendment. The Administration opposed the Gallegly Amendment, which would have ended the guarantee of public education for all children. It would have shifted immigration

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enforcement from the borders and work sites to classrooms and made children susceptible to gangs and violence.

Strengthening Families and Communities

Helping Parents Balance Work and Family. The Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA) -- the first piece of legislation the President signed into law -- enables workers to take up to 12 weeks unpaid leave to care for a new baby or ailing family member without jeopardizing their job. Since its enactment, millions of Americans have benefited from FMLA, and the President has expanded leave options for Federal employees. President Clinton has called for extending this benefit to 12 million more working families and expanding the law to allow workers to take leave for family obligations such as doctors appointments and parent-teacher conferences. Additionally, in his FY 2001 budget, the President is proposing new grants to enable states and regions to develop innovative paid leave options for working parents.

Providing Incentives to Save. President Clinton signed legislation creating Individual Development Accounts, providing incentives for low-income families to save for a first home, higher education, or to start a new business, a key part of his 1992 community empowerment agenda. In FY 1999, \$10 million was awarded to establish savings accounts for over 10,000 low-income workers in 40 communities, and an additional \$10 million will be awarded in FY 2000. The President's budget provides \$25 million for IDAs in FY 2001 and proposes to allow low-income working families to use IDAs to save for a car that will allow them to get or keep a job. [White House Fact Sheet, 10/27/98, White House Fact Sheet, 2/23/00]

Doubled Child Support Collections. President Clinton signed into law the toughest child support crackdown in history. Federal and state child support programs broke new records in 1999, collecting nearly \$16 billion -- double the amount collected in 1992. The number of paternities established rose to a record 1.5 million in 1998 -- more than triple the number from 516,000 in 1992. The number of child support cases with collections rose 59 percent, from 2.8 million 1992 to 4.5 million in 1998. [HHS Release, 1/27/00]

Protecting Rent Subsidies for Low-Income Families. President Clinton won \$10.8 billion in the FY00 budget for the renewal of all Section 8 contracts, an increase of \$1.2 billion from FY 1999. This will ensure continuation of HUD rental subsidies for low-income tenants in privately owned housing. The FY 2001 budget requests \$690 million for 120,000 new housing vouchers to help America's hard-pressed working families, building on the 110,000 new vouchers secured in the past two years.

Expanding Low-Income Housing Tax Credit by 40 Percent. In 1993, President Clinton fulfilled his promise to permanently extend the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, spurring the private development of low-income housing and helping to build 75,000-90,000 housing units each year.

Improved Access to Affordable, Quality Child Care and Early Childhood Programs. Under the Clinton-Gore Administration, federal funding for child care has more than doubled,

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helping parents pay for the care of about 1.5 million children in 1998, and the 1996 welfare reform law increased child care funding by \$4 billion over six years to provide child care assistance to families moving from welfare to work. Since 1993, the Clinton-Gore Administration has increased funding for the Head Start program by 90 percent, and in FY 2000, the program will serve approximately 880,000 children – over 160,000 more children than in 1993. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have proposed a \$817 million increase in FY 2001 for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, which helps working families struggling to afford child care. These new funds, combined with the child care funds provided in welfare reform, will enable the program to serve over 2.2 million children in 2001.

Making Our Communities Safer

Lowest Crime Rates in a Generation. When President Clinton and Vice President Gore took office in 1993, the violent crime rate in America had more than quadrupled during the previous three decades. Since then, America has experienced the longest continuous drop in crime on record. The overall crime rate is the lowest in 25 years, and in 1999 crime fell for the eighth consecutive year nationwide. Violent crime rate fell 7 percent in 1999 and 27 percent since 1993. Since 1993, the murder rate is down more than 25 percent to its lowest point since 1967, and gun violence has declined by more than 35 percent. Between 1993-1998, decreasing victimization trends were experienced about equally for all race, sex and income groups. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1998 National Crime Victimization Survey; Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports for the United States 1998, 1999; FY 2001 Budget, p. 107]

Putting 100,000 More Police on the Streets. In 1999, ahead of schedule and under budget, the Clinton-Gore Administration met its commitment to fund an additional 100,000 police officers for our communities. As a part of the COPS Program, the President announced a distressed neighborhood grant program to increase community policing in high-crime and underserved neighborhoods. To help keep crime at record lows, in fall 1999, the President won funding for the first installment toward his goal to hire up to 50,000 more officers by 2005. This year, the Clinton-Gore budget includes over \$1 billion to continue the successful COPS initiative to hire more officers, hire new community prosecutors, give police the tools and technology they need to fight crime, and to fund community-wide crime fighting efforts. [Justice Department, COPS Program, 5/12/99; National Economic Council, 11/18/99; FY 2001 Budget, p. 109]

More Than Half a Million Felons, Fugitives and Domestic Abusers Denied Guns. Since taking effect in 1994, the Brady Law has helped to prevent more than 536,000 felons, fugitives, domestic abusers, and other prohibited purchasers from buying guns. In November 1998, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) took effect under the Brady Law, allowing access to a fuller set of records that law enforcement officials can use to conduct checks of all prospective gun purchases -- not just for handguns. As of March 2000, NICS has conducted over 10 million background checks on gun purchasers, and stopped an estimated 179,000 illegal gun sales. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, Background Checks for Firearm Transfers, 1999, 6/00]

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Preventing Hate Crimes. As part of the historic 1994 Crime Act, the President signed the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act which provides for longer sentences where the offense is determined to be a hate crime. The President and Vice President have repeatedly called for passage of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which would strengthen the existing federal hate crimes law. The President's FY 2001 budget includes \$20 million to promote police integrity and for hate crimes training for federal, state, and local law enforcement. President Clinton also hosted the first White House Conference on Hate Crimes, which examined laws and remedies that can make a difference in preventing hate crimes, highlighted solutions that are working in communities across the country, and continued the frank and open dialogue needed to build One America.

Largest Gun Enforcement Initiative in History. This year, President Clinton has proposed the largest gun enforcement initiative ever. The initiative would provide a record \$280 million to add 500 new federal ATF agents and inspectors to target violent gun criminals and illegal gun traffickers that supply guns to criminals and juveniles, and fund over 1,000 new federal, state, and local gun prosecutors to take dangerous gun offenders off the streets. This initiative would also expand the ATF's crime gun tracing program by providing tracing equipment and training to 250 additional law enforcement agencies and by creating the first nationally integrated ballistics testing system. The new ballistics testing system will help law enforcement use the unique "fingerprints" of bullets or shell casings left at the scene of a crime to identify gun criminals -- even in the absence of a firearm. [Justice Department Press Release, 1/18/00]

Coordinating the Federal Government's Response to Youth Violence. In 1999, President Clinton created the White House Council on Youth Violence to coordinate youth violence research and programs throughout the federal government, and to make information derived from the federal government's efforts more accessible to the public. Members of the Council include the Attorney General and the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Education, and Labor, as well as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

National Campaign Against Youth Violence. In August 1999, President Clinton announced the formation of an independent, national campaign to address the problem of youth violence. The Campaign plans to launch anti-violence activities including a major media campaign, concerts, town hall meetings, in- and after-school programs. The Campaign will also highlight effective youth violence initiatives in cities across the country.

Safe and Clean Environment

Environmental Justice and Redevelopment. The Clinton-Gore Administration issued an Executive Order on Environmental Justice to ensure that low-income citizens and minorities do not suffer a disproportionate burden of industrial pollution. The Administration identified pilot projects to be undertaken across the country to redevelop contaminated sites in low-income communities, turn them into useable space, create jobs and enhance community development.

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Accelerating Toxic Cleanups and Brownfields Redevelopment. The Clinton-Gore Administration has cleaned up over 525 Superfund sites -- nearly three times as many in six years as the previous administrations did in twelve -- with clean up of more than 90 percent of all sites either completed or in progress. The Administration has leveraged nearly \$1 billion in private sector investment for brownfields redevelopment.

Clearing the Air of Unhealthy Pollution. The President and Vice President have adopted the toughest standards ever on soot and smog. They proposed significant reductions in tailpipe emissions from cars, light trucks and SUVs, and launched long-term effort to restore pristine skies over our national parks and wilderness areas. Since 1993, the number of Americans living in communities that meet federal air quality standards has grown by 43 million. [White House, Council on Environmental Quality, 5/1/99]

Keeping Our Drinking Water Safe. The President proposed and signed legislation to strengthen the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure that our families have healthy, clean tap water. The Clinton-Gore Administration has required America's 55,000 water utilities to provide regular reports to their customers on the quality of their drinking water. The Administration significantly tightened the arsenic standard, providing additional protection to at least 22.5 million Americans from cancer and other health problems. The Administration has adopted or proposed new standards to provide the first-ever protection against waterborne illness like Cryptosporidium, potentially preventing more than half a million illnesses each year. The Administration also proposed new rule to reduce dirty runoff and strengthen protections for 20,000 rivers, lakes and other waterways too polluted for swimming and fishing. Ninety-one percent of America's tap water from community drinking water systems now meets all federal standards. [White House, Office of the Press Secretary, 8/6/96; White House, Council on Environmental Quality, 4/22/99; Environmental Protection Agency, Summary of the 2000 Budget, p. 30; Environmental Protection Agency, Press Release, 5/24/00; White House, Office of the Vice President, 3/28/00]

Reducing the Threat of Global Warming. The Clinton-Gore Administration negotiated an international treaty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an environmentally strong and economically sound way. The President and Vice President secured \$1.1 billion in FY 2000 for research and development of energy efficiency and clean energy technologies, and set a goal of tripling U.S. use of bio-energy and bio-products by 2010. The President issued an Executive Order directing agencies to dramatically improve energy efficiency in federal buildings, saving taxpayers over \$750 million a year when fully implemented.

American Leadership Abroad

Reducing the North Korean Threat. The Administration is working to reduce the North Korean threat through deterrence, including the forward deployment of 37,000 U.S. troops; diplomacy, including bilateral talks leading to a moratorium on long-range missile testing; and non-proliferation,

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including the eventual dismantling of North Korea's dangerous nuclear facilities.

Renewed Bipartisan Consensus for Engagement with China. The Administration has renewed the bipartisan consensus for engagement with China to advance U.S. interests and draw the world's most populous nation more fully into the international community.

Supporting Human Rights In China. The Administration has engaged China's leaders in ground-breaking human rights dialogue.

Led International Efforts Against Terrorism. The Administration has led international efforts against terrorism, including signing anti-terrorism legislation that ensures strong penalties for convicted terrorists.

Secured Bipartisan Senate Ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Start II Treaty. The convention bans the production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons. Start II, together with Start I, will reduce U.S. and Russian nuclear arsenals two-thirds from their Cold War heights.

Meeting Emerging Threat of Biological Weapons. By strengthening our ability to respond to an attack, vaccinating our troops and seeking tough inspection to enforce international treaty.

Led Efforts to Rid the World of Land Mines. The Administration has led efforts to rid the world of land mines by eliminating non self-destructing mines from our arsenals, seeking alternatives to self-destructing mines by 2006, and devoting more resources to removing existing mines than the rest of the world combined.

September 2000

Opportunity and Results for Hispanic Students

Box heading?

Test scores of Hispanic Students are Up

- Math Scores of Hispanic Students increased at the 4th, 8th and 12th grade levels between 1992-96. [NAEP Mathematics Report Card, 1996, p. 33]
- The percentage of Hispanic students testing at or above basic math skills increased from 1992-96 at 4th, 8th and 12th grade levels. Half of Hispanic students in their final year of high school have mastered basic math skills, compared with 55 percent below basic level in 1992. [NAEP Mathematics Report Card, 1996, p. 55]
- The percentage of Hispanic students testing at or above basic reading skills increased at the 8th grade level between 1992-98, and a larger percentage of 12th grade students test at or above proficient reading levels in 1998 than in 1992. [NAEP Reading Report Card, 1998, p. 70]

More Hispanic Students taking Core Academic Curriculum

- The percentage of Hispanic High School students taking a core curriculum of 4 years of English and 3 each of Math, Science and Social Studies increased from 30 percent in 1990 to 40 percent in 1998. [Digest of Education Statistics, 1999, Table 142]

More Hispanic Students are Taking AP Exams

- Nearly 70,000 Hispanic, Puerto Rican and Mexican American high school students took AP exams in 1999, the most ever. [The College Board, College-Bound Seniors 1999, 8/31/99]

More Hispanic High School Graduates are Going to College

- The percentage of Hispanic High School graduates going directly to college increased from 55 percent in 1992 to 66 percent in 1997 [Condition of Education, 1999, p. 114]

More Hispanic Students Completing College

- The percentage of Hispanic high school graduates age 25-29 who have a college degree is the highest ever. [Census Bureau, Condition of Education 1999, p.126]

what is that #?

Increased Support of Hispanic Education

- **Title I:** Clinton-Gore reforms to Title I have ended the practice of setting different standards for Title I students, targeted funds to schools that need help, created a \$134 million accountability fund to identify and turn around failing schools and created a new level of flexibility, including eliminating two-thirds of regulations at the elementary and secondary level.
- **Head Start:** President Clinton and Vice President Gore have expanded Head Start participation and implemented quality reforms that have improved Head Start Programs. In 1998, TK percent of the children enrolled in Head Start were Hispanic.
- **Charter/Magnet Schools:** Charter schools and magnet schools provide parents with school choices that are affordable and accountable. Magnet schools are especially helpful in encouraging diversity and eliminating segregation. The number of charter schools has increased from 1 to 1,700 since 1992 and the number of magnet schools has increased from 2,400 to 4000.
- **GEAR-UP:** GEAR UP works with students starting in 7th grade or earlier through high school graduation because research shows that students taking challenging courses in middle school are much more likely to succeed in high school and go on to college. GEAR UP is serving more nearly 750,000 students nationwide.
- **AmeriCorps:** Since 1993, more than 150,000 people have had the opportunity to serve through AmeriCorps, with Hispanics comprising 11 percent of all participants.

- **College Assistance:** The Administration has increased the amount of Pell Grants, the number of work-study spots, and added new service options like AmeriCorps to help students earn money for school. Over 2.5 million more students receive some sort of federal help paying for college today than in 1992. In 1995-96, 54 percent of Hispanic students enrolled full-time in college received a Pell Grant.
- **Expanded After-School & Summer School Opportunities:** The 21st Century Community Learning Centers program will provide enriching after-school and summer school opportunities for 850,000 school-age children in rural and urban communities in FY 2000. Extended learning time has not only been shown to increase achievement in reading and math, but to decrease youth violence and drug use. The President's budget proposal will double funding and nearly triple the number of students served to 2.5 million.
- **Bilingual education:** Bilingual education programs today help school districts teach English to more than 1 million students with limited English skills.

Standards and Results for High Poverty Schools

Box headings?

High Standards & Accountability for High Poverty Schools

- The Clinton-Gore Administration ended the practice of setting lower curriculum standards for poor schools in its Title I reauthorization. [1994 ESEA Reauthorization Act]
- Title I funding is better targeted to high-poverty schools. In 1993-94 just 70 percent of high-poverty schools received Title I funds. As a result of changes signed into law by the Clinton-Gore Administration, 95 percent of the highest-poverty schools receive Title I funds. [Dept of Education, Targeting Schools: Study of Title I Allocations Within School Districts, 3/99]
- The Clinton-Gore Administration created the federal government's first ever attempt to identify failing schools -- a \$134 million Title I accountability fund to identify and help turn around failing schools. The Administration is pushing for broader reforms that would require states to turn around failing schools or shut them down. [OMB, FY2001 Budget]

Progress in Closing Educational Gaps

- 9-year-olds in high-poverty schools increased their reading test scores by an average of 8 points between 1992-96 -- the equivalent on one full grade level. The gap between test scores for high-poverty 9-year-olds and all 9-year-olds narrowed by 7 points over this period -- nearly 25 percent of the gap existing when the Clinton-Gore Administration took office was erased in the first four years. [Dept of Education, 5-year Report Card on American Education, 2/00]
- 9 year-olds in high-poverty schools increased their math scores by an average of 9 points between 1992-96. The gap between test scores for high-poverty 9-year-olds and all 9-year-olds narrowed by 7 points over this period -- 35 percent of the gap existing when the Clinton-Gore Administration took office was erased in the first four years. [Dept of Education, 5-year Report Card on American Education, 2/00]
- Low-income high school graduates are much more likely to go on to college today. In 1992, 40.9 percent of high school graduates from families in the bottom 20 percent went directly to college. In 1997, 57 percent did -- an all time high. [Condition of Education, 1999; Census Bureau]

Clinton-Gore Reforms and Initiatives Targeting High-Poverty Schools

- **Head Start:** The Clinton-Gore Administration has increased funding for Head Start by 90 percent, adding 250,000 slots for Head Start students, including expanding the program to serve 40,000 children under three years old in Early Start. [HHS 6/16/2000] In addition, Head Start reforms have brought accountability to the program. Over 200 grantees have turned their failing programs around, while another 100 that failed to reform have been shut down. [HHS, 10/27/98]
- **After School:** After school and summer school programs give low-income students the extra tutoring, mentoring and study opportunities they need to meet high standards. Under President Clinton and Vice President Gore, after school and summer school programs now serve 850,000 students.
- **GEAR-UP:** Encourages students in high-poverty middle schools to begin preparing to go to college. GEAR-UP serves 750,000 students.
- **E-Rate:** Provides over \$2 billion per year in discounts for internet connections and access, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools. Over 647,000 classrooms will be connected to the Internet as a direct result of E-Rate. Today, 90 percent of high-poverty schools are connected to the internet.
- **Teacher Quality:** President Clinton's and Vice President Gore's efforts to hire quality teachers in the early grades.

Dr. Chack.

> Yikes! Add detail

- **Advanced Placement Initiative:** Provides \$15 million to encourage students in high-poverty schools to take AP tests through fee ^{waivers}waives, tutoring and classroom materials. Over 92,000 students have taken advantage of the program.
- **More College Assistance:** The Administration has increased the amount of Pell Grants, the number of work-study spots, and added new service options like AmeriCorps to help students earn money for school. Over 2.5 million more students receive federal grants or loans to pay for college today than in 1992.

Math, Science and Technology Education

Box headings

Higher Math Test Scores

- Since 1992, scores on the national standardized NAEP math test have increased at 4th, 8th and 12th grade levels. In 1996, nearly 70 percent of High School seniors performed at a level above basic skills, up from 64 percent in 1992. [NAEP 1996 Mathematics Report Card; The Condition of Education 1999]

Math Scores Increased For Minority Students

- NAEP Math scores increased for African American, Hispanic, and Native American students at all three levels tested. African American students performed seven points better in 1996 than in 1992 at the 4th grade level and Native American students performed nine points better at the 8th grade level. [NAEP 1996 Mathematics Report Card; The Condition of Education 1999]

High School Students Are Taking More Math and Science Classes

- As states have set higher standards and more students have aimed for college, the number of students taking math and science classes have increased. In 1990, just 39 percent of high school graduates took a core curriculum of four years of Math Science and Social Studies. In 1998, 55 percent of graduates had taken four years of Math, Science and Social Studies. [Department of Education, 5-year Report Card on American Education, February 2000]

Recruiting and Preparing Quality of Math and Science Teachers

- The number of public school math teachers who have a major or minor in math has increased from 77 percent in 1993 to 82 percent in 1998 and the number of science teachers with major or minor in science has increased from 82 percent in 1993 to 88 percent in 1998. [Department of Education, Schools and Staffing Survey; 5-year Report Card on American Education, February 2000] In his 2000 State of the Union, the President called on states to require 95 percent of teachers to be teaching within their field by 2004. And the President's proposed \$1 billion Teaching to High Standards Initiative provides the incentives and funding for recruitment and professional development to make it possible. [OMB, FY2001 Budget, p.45]

America Counts – Helping Students Master Mathematics

- In 1997, the Administration made it a national priority for all students to master mathematics, including the foundations of algebra and geometry, by the end of 8th grade. [1997 State of the Union Address, 2/4/97] To reach this goal, Vice President Gore announced the America Counts initiative in November 1998, a national effort to provide children with well-trained tutors challenge. The Administration eased Work-Study regulations, encouraging college students in the federal Work-Study program to serve as math tutors. [OVP Release, 12/12/98] In the first year alone, nearly 500 colleges and universities had joined the America Counts program. [America Counts Release, 5/22/00; ed.gov/mericacounts/committed.html]

Expanded Access to Technology

- The President and Vice President created the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund to help connect every school to the Internet, increase the number of multimedia computers in the classroom and provide technology training for teachers. They increased overall investments in educational technology from \$23 million in 1993 to \$769 million in FY 2000, and tripled funding for Community Technology Centers to reach at least 120 low-income communities. [Office of Management and Budget, FY2000, FY2001 Budgets] Through the E-rate program, they secured low-cost connections to the Internet for schools, libraries, rural health clinics and hospitals,

Condense headings

benefiting more than 80 percent of America's public schools. [EdLinc, E-Rate, Connecting Kids to the Future, edlinc.org] In 1999, 95 percent of public schools were connected to the Internet -- up from 35 percent in 1994. In 1999, 63 percent of all public school classrooms were connected to the Internet -- up from just 3 percent in 1994. [NCES, Internet Access in U.S. Public Schools and Classrooms, February 2000]

Character Education

But heads?

Zero Tolerance for Guns and Drugs

- President Clinton worked to pass the gun-free schools act requiring states to adopt a zero tolerance policy toward guns in schools. Since its enactment, nearly 10,000 students have been expelled for gun and weapon violations. [U.S. Dept. of Education, Report on State Implementation of the Gun-Free Schools Act, 1997-98]

New Tools to Improve School Discipline

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have encouraged states, communities and districts to adopt common sense measures to address school behavior problems such as school uniforms, and strong truancy and curfew laws. They have also advocated after-school and summer school opportunities to provide safe supervised learning opportunities when children are not in school.

Giving Parents Tools to Fulfill their Responsibilities

- The Clinton-Gore Administration has worked with the entertainment industry to give parents the tools they need to monitor what their children see on television and the Internet. They led the fight for legislation requiring installation of the V-chip in televisions and worked with the entertainment industry to implement a voluntary rating system. [White House Conference on Teenagers, 5/2/00]

Roles for Religion and Faith-Based Organizations

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked to make sure that faith-based organizations can play a role in helping students succeed. The Administration issued guidelines that allow and encourage faith-based organizations to participate in after-school programs, school safety, discipline, mentoring and literacy programs. The guidelines help teachers, administrators and parents develop policies that protect private religious expression while avoiding coerced student participation in religious expression. [Department of Education, 12/18/99]

Brining the Right Messages to Young People

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have organized and launched national media campaigns that bring the right messages to young people. The National Youth Anti-Drug Campaign is bringing a message to kids that drugs are dangerous and wrong through television, radio, print and the Internet. The campaign also encourages responsible adults to talk to kids about drugs and get more involved in the lives of young people. The campaign is reaching 90 percent of youth four to seven times a week and messages are delivered in 11 different languages. Youth attitudes toward drug use are showing progress, with more young people disapproving of drug use. [ONDCP Release, 8/2/99]
- The Clinton-Gore Administration also launched a national anti-violence campaign aimed at youth to encourage parents to talk to their kids about violence and teach young people conflict resolution skills. [White House Release, 10/19/99]
- Finally, their successful National Campaign to Reduce Teen Pregnancy played a part in helping to bring teen pregnancy rates to the lowest level since record keeping began 60 years ago. [HHS, 8/8/2000]

Character Education Partnership

- Since 1995, the Clinton-Gore Administration has awarded nearly \$9 million in character education partnership grants to states to integrate values into the school curriculum. [Department of Education, Development and Demonstration Programs Division, www.ed.gov/OERI/ORAD]

Reading and Literacy

Box headline?

Reading Scores Improve:

- The 1998 NAEP Reading Report Card found that average reading scores improved at all three levels tested – 4th, 8th and 12th grades – between 1994 and 1998. [NAEP, 1998 Reading Report Card, 3/99]

America Reads Has Tutored More than 2 Million Children:

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore created the America Reads program as a challenge to communities, businesses and families to work together to make sure every child reads well by the third grade. President Clinton made it possible for work-study students to earn money for college by serving as reading tutors for children. Today, more than 25,000 work study students serve as tutors. Since America Reads was launched in 1997, more than two million children have been tutored to read by national service programs such as AmeriCorps, VISTA, and Foster Grandparents. One million children will be served by the America Reads program this year.

end of 3rd grade?

Head Start Quality Improvements Focus on Reading Readiness:

- Reforms enacted in 1998 set aside new funds to make quality improvements in the Head Start program, including providing quality early literacy training for Head Start students so that Head Start graduates enter school ready to read. [HHS, Improving Head Start: A Success Story, 6/16/2000]

Expands Even Start Family Literacy

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have increased participation in the Even Start family literacy initiative to 48,000 families.

definition needs to be effective

Expanding Bilingual and Immigrant Opportunities

- The Clinton-Gore Administration has significantly expanded opportunities for children, adults and families to improve English skills. They have nearly doubled funding for bilingual and immigrant programs and launched a new initiative combining English language and reading instruction with civics and life skills instruction and new teacher training initiatives will help teachers specialize in teaching children ^{to} improve their English skills.

program in the past

Special Education

Box heading?

Doubled funding for Special Education

- The Clinton-Gore Administration has increased funding for students with disabilities from less than \$3 billion in 1993 to more than \$6 billion in 2000. State grants are at the highest level ever, and have increased by 127 percent since 1994.

Raised Standards and Improved IDEA

- In 1997, the President enacted a stronger Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), reaffirming our national commitment to provide a world class education for all our children by ensuring that our nation's schools are safe and conducive to learning, while scrupulously protecting the rights of students with disabilities. Funding for the basic IDEA grant program has increased by 100 percent under the Clinton-Gore Administration. Because of the 1997 IDEA reforms:
- students with disabilities have a right to be in the classroom and to be included in school activities ✓
- students with disabilities learn the same things with the same curricula and the same assessments as all other children ✓
- teachers receive more training so that they can effectively teach students with disabilities ✓
- schools are required to develop individual plans to prepare students for life beyond school including job training, independent living plans and preparation for higher education.

More Students with Disabilities are Taught in Regular Classes

- The percentage of students with disabilities taught in regular classrooms has reached ^{an} all-time high under President Clinton and Vice President Gore. In 1996-97, 46.2 percent of students spent 80 percent or more of their time in a regular classroom. By comparison, 40.5 percent of students with disabilities attended regular classes in 1992-93. This means that approximately 600,000 more students with disabilities attend regular classes than in 1992-93, an increase of 29 percent. [Dept of Education, 21st Annual Report on IDEA, 4/11/2000]

More Students with Disabilities are Receiving High School Diplomas

- The number of students receiving high school diplomas increased by 32 percent between 1992-93 and 1996-97. This means that 33,000 more students with disabilities graduated with diplomas. [Dept of Education, 21st Annual Report on IDEA, 4/11/2000]

Expanded Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

The Clinton-Gore Administration has worked to remove the many barriers that make it more difficult for people with disabilities to contribute to the work force:

- They supported and signed the Work Incentives Improvement Act to allow people with disabilities to return to work without fear of losing their Medicare or Medicaid health insurance coverage.
- The Clinton Administration proposed and succeeded in enacting a \$1,000 tax credit to help pay work-related expenses such as transportation and assistive technology that will help over 200,000 working people with disabilities.
- The Administration has accelerated research and adoption of assistive technologies and made them more affordable.
- The Clinton-Gore Administration has implemented FCC regulations ensuring that people with disabilities have access to important business technology such as telephones, cell phones, pagers, call waiting, and operator services.

Education Technology

Box Heading

Connecting Schools and Classrooms to the Internet

- In 1999, 95 percent of public schools were connected to the Internet -- up from 35 percent in 1994. In 1999, 63 percent of all public school classrooms were connected to the Internet -- up from just 3 percent in 1994. [NCES, Internet Access in U.S. Public Schools and Classrooms, February 2000]
- President Clinton and Vice President Gore also Fought for the \$2.25 billion "E-rate" to Connect Schools and Libraries to the Internet. The E-rate is providing 20 percent - 90 percent discounts to connect schools and libraries to the Internet, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools that need it most. By the end of 2000, the E-rate will have funded \$6.25 billion of telecommunications infrastructure and services to schools and libraries. In 1999, 82 percent of public schools (over 78,000) and 51 percent of public libraries received public funding.

Increased Investments in Education Technology

- President Clinton Succeeded in Increasing Educational Technology Funding by ~~Over~~ 3,000 Percent -- From \$23 Million in FY94 to \$766 million in FY2000.
- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have provided nearly \$1.5 billion over the past four years to states through the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund in order to work with the private sector to put computers, educational software and Internet connections in classrooms.
- Over the last five years, the Technology Innovation Challenge has generated \$1.3 billion in matching commitments for \$450 million in federal investment. Partnerships created by the program involve 220 colleges and universities, 381 businesses, 520 community-based organizations, and 744 schools, districts, and other partners in developing innovative uses of computers, networking, Web-based instruction, and multimedia across the curriculum.

Closing the Digital Divide

- In 1999, the Clinton-Gore Administration created Community Technology Centers to increase access to computers and technology in communities all across the country. There are now centers in 120 communities across the country, and President Clinton has requested funding to establish 1,000 more. In addition, the President has proposed \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage private sector contributions of technology, sponsorship of technology centers and technology training for workers.

Training Teachers to use Technology

- In 1994, 51 percent of teachers had recently participated in professional development on the use of technology. In 1998, 78 percent of teachers received professional development that focused on the integration of technology in the grade and subject they taught.
- The new \$75 million Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology program supports 1,350 partnerships among colleges, school districts, State educational agencies, high-tech companies, and non-profit organizations. These partnerships will train 400,000 new teachers to be technologically literate and able to integrate technology into the curriculum.

Opportunity and Results for African American Students

Box headers?

Test Scores of African American Students Are Up

- Reading and Math test scores of African American students are up in virtually all categories.
- Reading scores increased for both 9-year-old and 17-year-old African Americans between 1992 and 1996.
- 17-year-olds narrowed the gap between white students and all students by seven points – eliminating nearly 20 percent of the gap that existed between African American and white students when the Clinton-Gore Administration took office in the first four years.
- Under the previous Administration, scores dropped and gaps widened. This Administration has worked to recover some of its losses. In its first four years, the Clinton-Gore administration succeeded in narrowing three-quarters of the gap opened during the previous administration among 9-year-olds and nearly half the gap opened among 17-year-olds. [Condition of Education, 1998; NAEP]

Average NAEP Reading Scores Among African-American Students			
		1988-92	1992-96
9-year-olds	test scores	- 4 points	+ 5 points
	score gap	Widens by 4 points	Narrows by 3 points
17-year-olds	test scores	- 13 points	+ 4 points
	score gap	Widens by 15 points	Narrows by 7 points

- Math scores increased at the 4th, 8th and 12th grade levels for African American students. Improvements among African American students at all three levels roughly kept pace with improvements among white students and among students as a whole. [Condition of Education, 1999; NAEP]

More African American Students are Taking AP Exams

- Three times as many African American students took AP exams in 1999 as took the tests in 1988. [www.collegeboard.org]

More African American Students are Going to College

- The percentage of African American high school graduates who go on to college has increased from 50 percent in 1992 to 58.5 percent in 1997. And over a period when the rates were increasing for all students to the highest level ever, the gap between African American and white high school graduates narrowed was cut almost in half over this period, dropping from 16 points to 9. [Condition of Education, 1999; Census Bureau]
- The percentage of young African Americans with college degrees increased from 13.7 percent in 1992 to 17.9 percent in 1998. [Condition of Education, 1999; Census Bureau]

Doubled Support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities

- The Clinton Gore Administration has nearly doubled funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. In FY1993, these institutions received \$109 million from the Education Department. The President's FY2001 budget contains \$209 million for HBCUs and HBCU graduate programs. Over 300,000 African American students attend HBCUs. These schools award over 25 percent of all Bachelors degrees earned by African Americans nationwide.
- In order to further strengthen these institutions, the President proposed a \$40 million program in his FY2001 budget that allows students to earn dual degrees at a HBCU and a partner school that offers additional programs.

Clinton-Gore Education Reforms Expand Opportunity for African Americans:

scroll down

- Clinton*
- Title I: Clinton-Gore reforms to Title I have ended the practice of setting different standards for Title I students, targeted funds to schools that need help, created a \$134 million accountability fund to identify and turn around failing schools and created a new level of flexibility, including eliminating two-thirds of regulations at the elementary and secondary level.
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 - AmeriCorps: Since 1993, more than 150,000 people have had the opportunity to serve through AmeriCorps, with African Americans comprising 23 percent of all participants.
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 - Expanded After-School & Summer School Opportunities: The 21st Century Community Learning Centers program will provide enriching after-school and summer school opportunities for 850,000 school-age children in rural and urban communities in FY 2000. Extended learning time has not only been shown to increase achievement in reading and math, but to decrease youth violence and drug use. The President's budget proposal will double funding and nearly triple the number of students served to 2.5 million.

5000 schools

**A VICTORY FOR STUDENTS AND HEALTH CARE:
PRESIDENT CLINTON, VICE PRESIDENT GORE, AND
CONGRESSIONAL DEMOCRATS WIN A LANDMARK BUDGET**

December 15, 2000

All year, President Clinton, Vice President Gore, and congressional Democrats have fought for a fiscally responsible budget that maintains America's prosperity by paying down the debt while making key investments in education, health care, and other priorities for America. **Today, President Clinton and Congress completed their work on the budget, agreeing on a budget for education, health, and labor programs and the New Markets initiative.**

The bill is a landmark achievement: it provides a \$6.5 billion (or 18 percent) increase for the Department of Education, the largest ever and a 76 percent increase since 1993. The Department of Health and Human Services receives a \$9 billion (or 22 percent) increase. It establishes the President's school repair initiative and provides the largest increases ever for the U.S. Department of Education, after-school programs, Head Start, school accountability, Pell Grants for college students (since the program was fully implemented in 1974), and the National Institutes of Health. It expands coverage under Medicare, Medicaid, and the State Children's Health Insurance Program and restores reimbursements to health care providers that were disproportionately effected by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

Investing in America's Students. The Clinton-Gore education strategy of higher standards for students and teachers, accountability for results, and the greater investment in our schools is working.

✓ **\$933 Million Increase for Head Start, Doubling Resources since 1993.** President Clinton won a \$933 million increase for Head Start to \$6.2 billion, serving 935,000 children. This is the largest one-year increase in Head Start ever. Since 1993, Head Start has more than doubled from \$2.8 billion to \$6.2 billion.

✓ **\$1.2 Billion for a New School Repair Initiative.** President Clinton fought for and won a new initiative to repair America's schools, providing \$1.2 billion for urgent school renovation. This initiative was a top priority of the President's, but it wasn't in the earlier Republican budget passed by the House of Representatives. The budget also provides much-needed repair funds to Native American schools.

✓ **Staying on Track to Hire 100,000 Teachers to Reduce Class Size.** President Clinton won \$1.6 billion for his class-size reduction initiative—a \$323 million (or 25 percent) increase over last year—to stay on track to hire 100,000 new teachers to reduce class sizes in the early grades. The House Republican budget failed to dedicate funds for class-size reduction.

✓ **Nearly Doubling After-School Learning Opportunities.** The budget includes \$846 million for after-school programs, a \$396 million (or 88 percent) increase over last year and \$246 million above the House Republican plan, serving 1.3 million children nationwide.

✓ **\$567 Million to Improve Teacher Quality.** The budget includes \$567 million for the President's teacher quality initiatives, a 52 percent increase. It invests in professional development, recruitment, and retention; expands the successful Troops to Teachers program to other mid-career professionals; and trains early childhood educators.

✓ **Holding Schools Accountable for Student Achievement.** President Clinton won \$225 million—a 70 percent increase since last year—to turn around low-performing schools, while the House Republican budget failed to invest in this key priority.

✓ **Creating College Opportunities.** Last January, President Clinton announced his request for a \$1 billion increase in efforts to expand student and prepare students for college. Consistent with his plan, the budget:

- **Provides the Largest Increase in Pell Grants Ever.** The budget increases the maximum Pell grant to \$3,750, a \$450 increase since last year—the largest one-year increase since the program was phased-in in 1974—and a \$1,450 increase since 1993.
- **Increases Funding for GEAR UP by \$95 Million to \$295 Million.** The House Republican plan froze GEAR UP at \$200 million. The budget will help 1.2 million disadvantaged students prepare for college.
- **Provides the Second-Largest TRIO Increase in History.** The budget increases TRIO funding by \$85 million to \$730 million and incorporates key elements of the President's College Completion Challenge Grants proposal into TRIO.
- **Funds One Million Work-Study Jobs.** It sustains the President's commitment to give one million students the opportunity to work through college.

Strengthening Health Care. The President's budget will strengthen the nation's health care system by:

- ✓ **Investing in Medicare, Medicaid, and S-CHIP Beneficiaries and Providers.** The budget enacts the Medicare, Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP) Benefits Improvement and Protection Act, which invests nearly \$35 billion over five years to: (1) improve Medicare's prevention benefits and cost-sharing, (2) provide health care coverage to persons leaving welfare for work and enroll eligible uninsured children in Medicaid and S-CHIP through schools and other sites, and (3) increase reimbursement to hospitals, home health agencies, nursing homes, managed care plans and other essential health care providers disproportionately affected by cuts from the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.
- ✓ **Supporting Biomedical Research.** The budget invests \$20.3 billion in cutting-edge biomedical research at the National Institutes of Health, a 14 percent increase since last year and nearly double the \$10.3 billion spent in 1993.
- ✓ **Creating the Family Caregivers Program.** The budget provides \$125 million for states to provide respite and other support services to families who care for elderly relatives with long-term care needs.
- ✓ **Expanding AIDS Care, Prevention, and Research.** The budget includes a \$164 million increase in funding for domestic and international HIV prevention activities; an increase of \$213 million in the Ryan White CARE Act, which helps provide primary care and support for those living with HIV/AIDS; and an estimated \$2.2 billion in additional funds for AIDS-related research at the NIH.
- ✓ **Funding the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act.** The budget provides \$580 million for a total of \$655 million for one-time payments of \$100,000 to people with hemophilia who were infected with HIV by blood solids during the 1980s.
- ✓ **Improving Mental Health and Substance Abuse Activities.** The budget increases resources for the prevention and treatment of mental health and substance abuse by 12 percent, providing nearly \$3 billion.
- ✓ **Promoting Community-Based Care for Americans with Disabilities.** The budget invests \$50 million to help states develop comprehensive plans to care for people with disabilities in the most appropriate setting.
- ✓ **Improving Nursing Home Quality.** The budget includes a \$32 million (68 percent) increase for the Nursing Home Initiative, which ensures more rigorous inspections of nursing facilities and improves federal oversight of nursing home quality.

Preparing America's Workers for the 21st Century. The budget invests in worker training to raise productivity and help Americans compete in the global economy.

- ✓ **Creating Opportunities for Youth.** The final budget provides a \$102 million increase (to \$1.1 billion) to provide job training and summer job opportunities to roughly 660,000 disadvantaged young people. It also increases Youth Opportunity Grants to \$275 million to provide comprehensive employment and training assistance to 63,000 out-of-school young people in high poverty areas.

- ✓ **Continuing the Universal Reemployment Initiative.** The budget creates \$35 million Reemployment initiative to help 156,000 Unemployment Insurance claimants get jobs faster. It also provides \$1.6 billion for Dislocated Workers, nearly tripled from \$597 million in 1993.
- ✓ **Protecting Workers.** The final budget includes \$1.2 billion to enforce federal safety, health, pensions, wages, and nondiscrimination practices. This \$102 million increase will support 1,500 inspections to ensure safe and healthy workplaces.

IN ADDITION TO THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRESS ON EDUCATION AND HEALTH, THIS YEAR'S BUDGET INCLUDES HIS OTHER VITAL PRIORITIES FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE:

Protecting Fiscal Discipline and Paying Down the Debt. The budget is a victory for President Clinton's stand for fiscal discipline. Between 1981 and 1992, the debt quadrupled. When President Clinton and Vice President Gore took office, the budget deficit was \$290 billion and it was projected to be \$455 billion by 2000. As a result of the tough and sometimes unpopular choices made by President Clinton, we have seen eight consecutive years of fiscal improvement for the first time in America's history, bringing last year's budget to a unified surplus of \$237 billion, the largest ever. With this surplus, we have been able to reverse this trend of exploding debt by paying down the debt for three years in a row.

✓ **Protecting Fiscal Discipline.** The Republicans proposed fiscally irresponsible tax cuts that would have jeopardized this record of fiscal discipline. In August, President Clinton vetoed Republican tax cuts that were part of their 10-year tax plan that would drain nearly \$2 trillion from the surplus, drive us back into deficits, and make it impossible to eliminate our debt by 2012.

✓ **Paying Down the Debt.** Because record deficits have become record surpluses, we were able to cut our debt by \$223 billion last year, the largest one-year debt reduction in U.S. history. The debt at the end of FY 2000 was \$2.4 trillion lower than it was projected to be in the last forecast before the President's program was put in place. We can pay off our debt by 2012, making America debt-free for the first time since Andrew Jackson was President in 1835.

✓ **Benefiting from Debt Reduction.** Already, debt reduction has meant about \$2,000 a year in lower interest payments for home mortgages, about \$200 a year in lower car payments, and about \$200 a year for lower student loan payments. Continuing to pay down the debt will keep interest rates about a point lower over the next decade, saving American families over \$300 billion in home mortgages alone.

Protecting the Environment. President Clinton and Vice President Gore won significant gains for the environment in the fiscal year 2001 budget, including new resources to combat water pollution, protect wildlife, address global warming, and preserve precious lands across the country. At the same time, the President and Vice President fought back numerous, anti-environmental riders that would have traded hard-won environmental safeguards for short-term special interest gains.

✓ **Preserving Our Lands Legacy.** The budge provides \$12 billion over six years in unprecedented, dedicated funding for the conservation of America's land and coastal resources.

✓ **Promoting Clean Water and Restoring the Florida Everglades.** The budget includes a \$164 million increase for the President's Clean Water Action Plan and \$118 million to begin restoring the Florida Everglades.

✓ **Fighting Global Warming.** The budget includes \$1.2 billion, a 13 percent increase, for President Clinton's Climate Change Technology Initiative, the backbone of the nation's effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The initiative supports research, development, and deployment of solar and renewable energy technology and energy efficient products.

Helping Working Families. The final budget helps all Americans participate in our economic prosperity.

✓ **Helping Hard-Pressed Working Families Meet Their Nutritional Needs.** Congress approved the Administration's proposed reforms to allow 245,000 people to own a reliable car and still receive Food Stamps and to help over 1.5 million low-income people with high housing costs put food on the table.

✓ **Funding 79,000 New Housing Vouchers.** This \$453 million increase—the largest in more than 15 years—will enable more families to rent or own affordable housing. These vouchers build on the 110,000 new vouchers secured through the President's leadership in the past two years.

✓ **Helping More Low-Income Families Afford Child Care.** The \$817 million increase (to \$2 billion) for the Child Care and Development Block Grant will provide child care subsidies for nearly 150,000 more children, helping more working families balance their responsibilities at work and home.

Empowering Communities. In addition to the progress made in today's New Markets agreement, this budget moves forward on the President's vision to help revitalize America's communities.

✓ **Expanding Community Development Financial Institutions.** The President won \$118 million for the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund to support loans and equity investments in under-served communities.

✓ **Promoting Community Service.** President Clinton won \$767 million for national and community service, a \$36 million increase. This year, AmeriCorps will enroll its 250,000th member.

✓ **Developing the Mississippi Delta Region.** The budget funds a new federal-state partnership to fight for economic growth in the Mississippi Delta region, a seven-State area which includes some of the most distressed communities in the nation. It includes resources for the Delta Regional authority, to improve rural economic activity, and improve the Delta's transportation infrastructure.

Closing the Digital Divide and Investing in Research and Development. In recognition of the centrality of knowledge and new technologies to our prosperity and quality of life, the budget includes an unprecedented commitment to creating digital opportunities and investing in research and development.

✓ **Closing the Digital Divide.** The budget includes a \$32 million increase for Community Technology Centers, a \$50 million increase for Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology, and a \$30 million increase for the Technology Opportunities Program.

✓ **National Science Foundation.** The budget provides the largest one-year increase for the NSF ever, \$526 million, to pursue scientific breakthroughs in core scientific areas as well as new ones like nanotechnology.

✓ **National Institutes of Health.** The budget provides a \$2.5 billion increase to NIH for research into diabetes, cancer, and brain disorders, and disease prevention strategies and vaccines.

Fighting Crime, Drugs, and Gun Violence. To keep crime coming down across the country, President Clinton fought for important investments in the budget to build on the Administration's successful community policing initiative, including funds to put more police on the street and critical resources to strengthen law enforcement efforts to keep communities safe and combat gun-related crime and violence.

✓ **Putting More Police on Our Streets.** Last year, President Clinton and Vice President Gore met their commitment to help communities hire 100,000 new police officers. This year, they won over \$1 billion to take the next step and help communities hire up to 50,000 more officers over the next five years.

✓ **Enforcing Gun Laws.** President Clinton won nearly \$200 million for his Gun Enforcement Initiative, the largest in history, to hire 500 ATF firearms agents and inspectors, fund over 600 federal state and local gun prosecutors and expand crime gun tracing and ballistics testing.

✓ **Keeping Children Safe from Guns.** The Administration won \$8 million to expand the development of “smart gun” technologies that help prevent accidental gun deaths and injuries of children by limiting the use of a firearm to the adult who owns it or another authorized user.

Maintaining America’s Global Leadership. The President fought for and secured victories to strengthen America’s leading role in the world by investing in a strong military and providing debt relief to heavily indebted poor countries.

✓ **Providing Debt Relief.** The final budget provides \$435 million for debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries that commit to reform. Savings from debt relief would be directed to education, health care, AIDS prevention, and other critical needs. Unsustainable debt keeps many countries in poverty; over a billion people survive on less than \$1 a day.

✓ **Fighting AIDS.** President Clinton won \$466 million to combat HIV/AIDS and \$125 million for other infectious diseases that plague the developing world. The budget also funds the President's Millennium Vaccine Initiative.

✓ **Maintaining a Strong Military.** Consistent with the Clinton-Gore plan for a long-term, sustained increase in defense spending, this year’s budget for the Department of Defense provides \$296.4 billion, a \$15.8 billion increase (excluding emergency spending for FY 2000).

✓ **Keeping the Peace.** The budget includes the President’s full request of \$835 million for contributions for international peacekeeping activities. Our ability to pay our share of international peacekeeping missions is a crucial part of fulfilling our international security responsibilities and ensuring that other nations share the burden with us.

THE 2001 BUDGET: A VICTORY FOR AMERICA'S STUDENTS

HOUSE REPUBLICAN BUDGET¹ FINAL BUDGET INCREASE OVER HOUSE BUDGET

Urgent School Renovation	\$0	\$1.2 billion	+ \$1.2 billion
Class-Size Reduction	\$0	\$1.6 billion	+ \$1.6 billion
After School	\$600 million	\$846 million	+ \$246 million
Teaching to High Standards	\$0	\$567 million	+ \$567 million
Accountability Fund	\$0	\$225 million	+ \$225 million
Title I Grants to School Districts for Disadvantaged Children ²	\$7.9 billion	\$8.4 billion	+ 436 million
Maximum Pell Grant College Scholarship	\$3,500	\$3,750	+ \$250
GEAR UP	\$200 million	\$295 million	+ \$95 million

¹ Based on the budget passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on June 14, 2000. That bill would have provided \$37.1 billion for education programs, \$5 billion less than the final budget.

² Does not include the Accountability Fund.

EIGHT YEARS OF PROGRESS ON EDUCATION

1993 FUNDING 2001 FUNDING CHANGE

Urgent School Renovation	\$0	\$1.2 billion	+ \$1.2 billion	
Class-Size Reduction	\$0	\$1.6 billion	+ \$1.6 billion	
After School	\$0	\$846 million	+ \$846 million	
Teacher Recruitment and Training	\$435 million	\$995 million	+ \$560 million	
Accountability Fund	\$0	\$225 million	+ \$225 million	
Title I Grants to School Districts for Disadvantaged Children ¹	\$6.1 billion	\$8.4 billion	+ \$2.3 billion	
Education Technology	\$23 million	\$872 million	+ \$849 million	
Special Education	\$3.0 billion	\$7.4 billion	+ \$4.5 billion	
Small, Safe, and Successful High Schools	\$0	\$125 million	+ \$125 million	
Maximum Pell Grant (+ \$2.3 billion)	(Total Pell Grants)	\$2,300	(\$6.5 billion)	\$3,750 (\$8.8 billion)
Hope Scholarships Tax Credit	\$0	\$5.1 billion	+ \$5.1 billion	
Lifetime Learning Tax Credit	\$0	\$2.8 billion	+ \$2.8 billion	
Student Loan Interest Deduction	\$0	\$333 million	+ \$333 million	
Work-Study	\$617 million	\$1.0 billion	+ \$394 million	
TRIO	\$388 million	\$730 million	+ \$342 million	
GEAR UP	\$0	\$295 million	+ \$295 million	

¹ Does not include the Accountability Fund

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**A NATION TRANSFORMED:
EIGHT YEARS OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY**
Clinton-Gore Administration Accomplishments: 1993 - 2001

Eight years ago, President Clinton and Vice President Gore put in place an agenda to get America back on its economic feet while restoring the values of opportunity, responsibility and community that made this country great. As a result of the hard work of the American people and the tough choices of the last eight years, America has made remarkable progress. A sea of red ink has been turned into the largest surplus in history, with the nation on track to pay off the debt by 2012 while strengthening Social Security and Medicare, expanding retirement savings and increasing college opportunity. Eight years ago, unemployment, crime and poverty were all highs, now they are at all-time lows. Today, more Americans are working, children are receiving a better education with high academic standards, our communities are cleaner and safer, and government now reinforces values of work, family, service and community. Eight years of progress under the Clinton-Gore Administration have made a real difference in improving the lives of American families.

Economy: The Strongest Economy in a Generation

Longest Economic Expansion in U.S. History. In February 2000, the United States entered the 107th consecutive month of economic expansion – the longest economic expansion in history. [National Bureau of Economic Research and Council of Economic Advisors]

Moving From Record Deficits to Record Surplus. In 1992, the Federal budget deficit was \$290 billion – the largest dollar deficit in American history. In January 1993, the Congressional Budget Office projected that the deficit would grow to \$513 billion by 2001. The Office of Management and Budget is now projecting a *surplus* of at least \$256 billion for FY 2001 – the fourth consecutive surplus and the ninth consecutive year of fiscal improvement, the longest such period in history. [Office of Management and Budget]

Paying Off the National Debt. Over the last three years, we have paid off paid down \$363 billion of the national debt. In December 2000, President Clinton announced that we are projected to pay down \$237 billion in debt in 2001, bringing the four-year total to debt paydown to \$600 billion. Therefore, the United States is on track to reduce the debt by \$600 billion over four years, the largest four-year debt pay-down ever. Debt reduction brings real benefits for the American people – a family with a home mortgage of \$100,000 can expect to save roughly \$2,000 per year in mortgage payments. Reduced debt also means lower interest rates and reduced payments on car loans and student loans. With the President's plan, we are now on track to eliminate the nation's publicly held debt by at least 2012.

More Than 22 Million New Jobs. 22.4 million new jobs have been created since 1993, the most jobs ever created under a single Administration – and more new jobs than Presidents Reagan and Bush created during their *three* terms. 92 percent (20.6 million) of the new jobs have been created in the private sector, the highest percentage in 50 years. Under President Clinton and Vice President Gore, the economy has added an average of 240,000 jobs per month, the highest of any President on record. This compares to 52,000 per month under President Bush and 167,000 per month under President Reagan. [Bureau of Labor Statistics]

Unemployment Is the Lowest in Over Three Decades. Unemployment is down from 7.5 percent in 1992 to 4.0 percent in November 2000, nearly the lowest in more than three decades. The unemployment rate has fallen for seven years in a row, and has remained below 5 percent for 41 months in a row – over three full years. Unemployment for African-Americans fell to the lowest level ever recorded, and for Hispanics it remains at historic lows. [Bureau of Labor Statistics]

Fastest and Longest Real Wage Growth in Over Three Decades. In the last 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased 3.8 percent. The United States has had five consecutive years of real wage growth -- the longest consecutive increase since the 1960s. Since 1993, real wages are up 6.5 percent, after *declining* 4.3 percent during the Reagan and Bush years. [National Economic Council, 6/00]

Most Rapid Growth in Construction Jobs in 50 Years. After losing 662,000 jobs in construction during the previous four years, 2.2 million new construction jobs have been added during the Clinton-Gore years -- that's a faster annual rate (5.4 percent) than any other Administration since Harry S. Truman was President.

Highest Homeownership Rate in History. The homeownership rate reached 67.7 percent in the third quarter of 2000, the highest ever recorded. Minority homeownership rates were also the highest ever recorded. In contrast, the homeownership rate *fell* from 65.6 percent in the first quarter of 1981 to 63.7 percent in the first quarter of 1993. There are almost 10 million more homeowners than in 1993. [Bureau of the Census, 10/26/00]

Household Income Breaks \$40,000 for First Time in History. Income for median households rose \$1,072, or 2.7 percent, from \$39,744 in 1998 to \$40,816, marking an unprecedented fifth year of significant growth in income. In 1999, the median income of African American households increased from \$25,911 in 1998 to \$27,910 -- an increase of \$1,999, or 7.7 percent, which is the largest one-year increase ever recorded. The income of the median Hispanic household, adjusted for inflation, increased from \$28,956 in 1998 to \$30,735 in 1999 -- an increase of \$1,779, or 6.1 percent, which is the largest one-year increase ever recorded. [Census Bureau, Money Income in the United States: 1999, 9/26/00]

Lowest Poverty Rate Since 1979. In 1999, the poverty rate dropped from 12.7 percent to 11.8 percent, the lowest rate in two decades. Since President Clinton and Vice President Gore passed their Economic Plan in 1993, the poverty rate has declined from 15.1 percent in 1993 to 11.8 percent in 1999 -- the largest six-year drop in poverty in nearly 30 years (1964-1970). There are now 7 million fewer people in poverty than in 1993, and over 2.2 million, or over 30 percent, of this decline occurred during the past year. [Census Bureau, Poverty in the United States: 1999, 9/26/00]

Largest One-Year Drop in Child Poverty in More than Three Decades. Under President Clinton and Vice President Gore child poverty has dropped by 25.6 percent -- from 22.7 percent in 1993 to 16.9 percent in 1999. While this is still too high, it is the lowest child poverty rate since 1979 and includes the largest one-year decline since 1966, which occurred from 1998 to 1999. The African American child poverty rate has fallen 28.2 percent since 1993, and dropped from 36.7 percent in 1998 to 33.1 percent in 1999 -- the largest one-year drop in history and the lowest level on record (data collected since 1959). The Hispanic child poverty rate has fallen by 26 percent since 1993, and dropped from 25.6 percent in 1998 to 22.8 percent in 1999 -- the lowest level since 1979. [Census Bureau, Poverty in the United States: 1999, 9/26/00]

Families and Communities: Strengthening America's Working Families

Tax Cuts for Working Families. 15 million additional working families received additional tax relief because of the President's expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit. In 1999, the EITC lifted 4.1 million people out of poverty -- nearly double the number lifted out of poverty by the EITC in 1993. This year, the President proposed expanding the EITC to provide tax relief to an additional 6.8 million hard-pressed working families. [Good News for Low Income Families: Expansions in the EITC and Minimum Wage, CEA, 12/98; Census Bureau]

Helping Parents Balance Work and Family. The Family and Medical Leave Act allows workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for seriously ill family members, new born or adoptive children, or their own serious health problems without fear of losing their jobs. Nearly 91 million workers (71% of the labor force) are covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act and millions of workers have benefited from FMLA since its enactment. President Clinton has proposed expanding FMLA to allow workers to take up to 24 unpaid hours off each year for school and early childhood education activities, routine family medical care, and caring for an elderly relative. [Five Years of Success: Report on FMLA, Department of Labor, 8/98 (updated number provided 7/99)]

Improved Access to Affordable, Quality Child Care and Early Childhood Programs. Under the Clinton-Gore Administration, federal funding for child care has more than doubled, helping parents pay for the care of about 1.5 million children in 1998, and the 1996 welfare reform law increased child care funding by \$4 billion over six years to provide child care assistance to families moving from welfare to work. Since 1993, the Clinton-Gore Administration have nearly doubled funding for the Head Start program, and in FY 2001, the program will serve approximately 935,000 children – more than 160,000 more children than in 1993.

Increased the Minimum Wage. The minimum wage has risen from \$4.25 to \$5.15 per hour, increasing wages for 10 million workers. Full-time minimum wage workers would see a raise of \$800 a year. [Good News for Low Income Families: Expansions in the EITC and Minimum Wage, CEA, 12/98]

Enacted the Workforce Investment Act. The Workforce Investment Act reformed the nation's employment and training system so that it works better for today's workers. The WIA empowered individuals by giving adults more control and choice over their training or retraining and providing universal access to core labor market services; streamlined job training services by consolidating a tangle of individual programs into a simple system and creating a nationwide network of One-Stop Career Centers; enhanced accountability through tough performance standards for states, localities, and training providers; and increased flexibility so that states can innovate and experiment with new ways to train America's workers better. All 50 states are now up and running and the number of One-Stops has reached 1,200 nationwide. [PL 105-220, 8/7/98]

Signed the Adoption and Safe Families Act. The Adoption and Safe Families Act, which was based in large part on the recommendations of the Clinton-Gore Administration's Adoption 2002 report, made sweeping changes in adoption law so that thousands of children in foster care move more quickly into safe and permanent homes. In 1999, 46,000 foster care children were adopted – more than a 64 percent increase since 1996 and well on the way to meeting the President's goal of doubling the number of adoptions from 28,000 in 1996 to 56,000 by 2002. [PL 105-89, 11/19/97; HHS Press Release, 9/20/00]

Putting Families First. The President and Vice President developed and implemented first-ever plan to protect our children from tobacco and end tobacco marketing targeted to young people. They also required the installation of V-chips in all new televisions, and encouraged schools to adopt school uniform policies to deter school violence and promote discipline. [Presidential Statement, 8/23/96; FCC Report No. GN 98-3, 3/12/98; Presidential Memorandum, 2/23/96]

Supporting Community Service. In just five years, AmeriCorps has allowed nearly 200,000 young people to serve in their communities while earning money for college or skills training. [Corporation for National Service Press Release, 10/16/99]

President Clinton's One America Initiative. President Clinton has led the nation in an effort to become One America: a place where we respect others' differences and embrace the common values that unite us. The President has been actively involved in public outreach efforts to engage Americans in this historic effort, and

followed up on the work of the Initiative on Race by appointing Robert B. (Ben) Johnson as Assistant to the President and Director of the new White House Office on the President's Initiative for One America. The office is working to ensure that we have a coordinated strategy to close the opportunity gaps that exist for minorities and the underserved in this country, and build the One America we want for all of our nation's children. The President's FY 2001 budget includes \$5 million for One America dialogues to promote and facilitate discussions on racial diversity and understanding. President Clinton has also appointed the most diverse Cabinet and White House staff in history, presiding over an Administration that looks like America. [FY 2001 Budget, p. 136]

Welcoming New Americans. Since 1993, the United States has welcomed 4.4 million new American citizens. Faced with this unprecedented number of applications, the Clinton Administration undertook an initiative that has significantly reduced the backlog of citizenship applications and is restoring timely processing. Furthermore, the Administration's *English as a Second Language/Civics Education Initiative* will provide limited English speaking adults with instruction in both English literacy and critical life skills necessary for effective citizenship and civic participation.

Providing Fairness for Legal Immigrants. President Clinton believes that legal immigrants should have the same economic opportunity and bear the same responsibility as other members of society. In 1997 and 1998, the President fought for and succeeded in restoring disability, health and nutritional benefits for certain legal immigrants, and he will continue to press for additional restorations. The President and Vice President have also taken executive actions to ensure that immigrants who are eligible for benefits are not deterred by language or other access barriers.

Education: More than Doubling Our Investment in Education

Opening the Doors of College to All Americans. President Clinton proposed and enacted the Hope Scholarships and Lifetime Learning tax credits. In 1999, \$7 billion in tax credits were claimed by an estimated 10 million American families paying for college. The Hope Scholarship helps make the first two years of college universally available by providing a tax credit of up to \$1,500 for tuition and fees for the first two years of college. The Lifetime Learning Tax Credit provides a 20 percent tax credit on the first \$5,000 of tuition and fees for students beyond the first two years of college, or taking classes part-time (in 2003, this increases to \$10,000 of tuition and fees). [Education Department, 4/2/99; Treasury Department]

Expanding Work Study and Pell Grants. One million students can now work their way through college because of the President's expansion of the Work Study Program, and nearly four million students will receive a Pell Grant of up to \$3,750, the largest maximum award ever. The maximum award has increased by \$1,450 under the Clinton-Gore Administration. The FY 2001 budget raised the maximum Pell Grant award from by \$450 – the largest one-year increase since 1974, when the program was phased in. [Education Department, Office of Student Financial Assistance, *Interim Performance Objectives, Final Report FY99*; FY 2001 Budget, p. 50]

Making College More Affordable. The Clinton-Gore Administration has cut student fees and interest rates on all loans, expanded repayment options including income contingent repayment, and improved service through the Direct Loan Program. Students have saved more than \$9 billion since 1993 through the reduction in loan fees and interest rates; the average \$10,000 loan costs a student \$1,300 less now than it did in 1993.

Established the GEAR UP College Opportunity Program for Middle School Children. President Clinton and Vice President Gore created and expanded GEAR UP, a nationwide early college intervention initiative, to help more than 1.2 million low-income middle school children finish school and prepare for college. They have also increased funding for the TRIO programs by 88 percent over the past eight years to \$730 million.

More High-Quality Teachers with Smaller Class Sizes. The Clinton-Gore Administration won a third installment for the President's plan to hire an additional 100,000 well-prepared teachers to reduce class size in the early grades, when children learn to read and master the basic skills. The President won \$1.6 billion – a \$323 million increase over the previous year – for the Class Size Reduction Initiative, despite the fact that the Republican budget failed to dedicate funds for class-size reduction. Already, 29,000 teachers have been hired through this initiative. [Education Department, Local Success Stories - Reducing Class Size, 11/99]

Turning Around Failing Schools. Eleven million low-income students in 13,000 school districts now benefit from higher expectations and a challenging curriculum geared to higher standards through Title I-Aid to Disadvantaged Students. In FY 2001 President Clinton won \$225 million for the accountability fund he created to help turn around the worst performing schools through such measures as overhauling curriculum, improving staffing, or even closing schools and reopening them as charter schools. [Education Department, Challenging the Status Quo: The Education Record, 1993-2000, 4/00]

Investing in School Construction. President Clinton fought for and won a new initiative to repair America's schools, providing \$1.2 billion in the FY 2001 budget for urgent school renovation. This initiative was a top priority of the President's, but wasn't in the earlier Republican budget passed by the House of Representatives. The budget also provides much-needed repair funds to Native American schools.

Providing Safe After-School Opportunities for 1.3 Million Students Each Year. The 21st Century Community Learning Centers program will provide enriching after-school and summer school opportunities for 1.3 million school-age children in rural and urban communities in FY 2001. Extended learning time has not only been shown to increase achievement in reading and math, but to decrease youth violence and drug use. The President won an 88 percent funding increase in FY 2001 to ensure that all children in failing schools have access to quality after-school and summer school opportunities.

Expanding Choice and Accountability in Public Schools. The Clinton-Gore Administration has worked to expand public school choice and support the growth of public charter schools, which have increased from one public charter school in the nation when the President was first elected to 2,000 today. More than 250,000 students nationwide are now enrolled in charter schools in 30 states and the District of Columbia. President Clinton won a \$45 million increase in funds in FY 2001 to support the start up of 450 new or redesigned schools that offer enhanced public school choice and have the flexibility to offer innovative educational programs in exchange for greater accountability for student achievement. [Education Department Press Release, 8/28/99; FY 2001 Budget, p. 47]

Teaching Every Child to Read. The President challenged Americans to commit to the effort to ensure that every child can read well and independently by the third grade -- 1,400 colleges and universities took up his challenge, and 26,700 college work-study students now serve as reading tutors to help every child learn to read. [Education Department, Challenging the Status Quo: The Education Record, 1993-2000, 4/00]

Expanding Access to Technology. With the Vice President's leadership, the Clinton-Gore Administration has made increasing access to technology a top priority, increasing our investment in educational technology by over 3,600 percent – from \$23 million in FY 1993 to \$872 million in FY 2001, including \$65 million for Community Technology Centers to reach at least 120 low-income communities. The President and Vice President created the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund to help connect every school to the Internet, increase the number of multimedia computers in the classroom and provide technology training for teachers. Through the E-rate program, they secured low-cost connections to the Internet for schools, libraries, rural

health clinics and hospitals, benefiting more than 80 percent of America's public schools. They also increased investment in education research to ensure all children benefit from educational technology. In 1999, 95 percent of public schools were connected to the Internet -- up from just 35 percent in 1994. [National Center for Education Statistics, Stats in Brief NCES 2000-086, 2/00]

Supporting Local Education Reform Efforts. The President signed the Education Flexibility Partnership Act of 1999 (Ed-Flex) into law in April 1999, giving all states greater flexibility in the use of federal education funds in exchange for greater accountability for helping all students reach high academic standards. [PL 106-25, 4/29/99]

Providing Early Education to Nearly One Million Children with Head Start. The President and Vice President have more than doubled Head Start funding since 1993, from \$2.8 billion to \$6.2 billion. Head Start will reach approximately 935,000 low-income children in FY 2001, nearly reaching the President's goal of serving one million children and their families by the year 2002. The Clinton Administration also created Early Head Start, bringing Head Start's successful comprehensive services to families with children ages zero to three, and set high quality standards for both programs. [HHS, Administration of Children and Families]

Crime and Drugs: Lowest Crime Rates in 25 Years

Lowest Crime Rates in a Generation. When President Clinton and Vice President Gore took office in 1993, the violent crime rate in America had more than quadrupled during the previous three decades. Since then, America has experienced the longest continuous drop in crime on record. Overall crime rates has dropped every year under President Clinton and Vice President Gore, the longest continuous drop on record and crime is now at a 26-year low. Violent crime rate fell 30 percent since 1993 and is at the lowest level in two decades. Since 1993, the murder rate is down more than 38 percent to its lowest point since 1966, and gun violence has declined by 40 percent. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1998 National Crime Victimization Survey; Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports for the United States 1998, 1999]

Putting 100,000 More Police on the Streets. In 1999, ahead of schedule and under budget, the Clinton-Gore Administration met its commitment to fund an additional 100,000 police officers for our communities. As a part of the COPS Program, the President announced a distressed neighborhood grant program to increase community policing in high-crime and underserved neighborhoods. To help keep crime at record lows, President Clinton won over \$1 billion in 2000 to help communities take the next step and hire up to 50,000 more police officers by FY 2005. [Justice Department, COPS Program, 5/12/99; National Economic Council, 11/18/99]

More Than 600,000 Felons, Fugitives and Domestic Abusers Denied Guns. Since taking effect in 1994, the Brady Law has helped to prevent a total of more than 611,000 felons, fugitives, domestic abusers, and other prohibited purchasers from buying guns. In November 1998, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) took effect under the Brady Law, allowing access to a fuller set of records that law enforcement officials can use to conduct checks of all prospective gun purchases -- not just for handguns. As of March 2000, NICS has conducted over 10 million background checks on gun purchasers, and stopped an estimated 179,000 illegal gun sales. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, Background Checks for Firearm Transfers, 1999, 6/00]

Cracking Down on the Most Serious Gun Criminals. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have established a tough records of enforcement of our nation's gun laws by helping law enforcement take serious gun criminals out of our communities and put them where they belong: behind bars. The number of federal firearms cases prosecuted by the U.S. Attorneys increased 16 percent, from 4,754 in 1992 to 5,500 in 1999. And, by providing federal, state and local law enforcement and prosecutors with the tools they need to crack

down on gun criminals, overall gun prosecutions have increased 22 percent. In addition, the average sentence for federal gun offenders has increased by nearly two years, and federal law enforcement is successfully targeting the most serious gun offenders. Between 1992 and 1998, the number of federal gun defendants sentenced to prison for three years or more went up 20 percent, and the number sentenced to five years or more went up 12 percent. [Justice Department Press Release, 1/18/00]

Largest Gun Enforcement Initiative in History. President Clinton won nearly \$200 million for his Gun Enforcement Initiative, the largest in history, to hire 500 ATF firearms agents and inspectors, fund over 600 federal state and local gun prosecutors and expand crime gun tracing and ballistics testing. The new ballistics testing system will help law enforcement use the unique “fingerprints” of bullets or shell casings left at the scene of a crime to identify gun criminals – even in the absence of a firearm.

Developed Comprehensive Anti-Drug Strategy Including a \$195 Million National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign. The President appointed Barry McCaffrey, a four-star general, to lead the Clinton-Gore Administration's anti-drug strategy as the nation's Drug Czar. In 1997, President Clinton and Director McCaffrey launched the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign, the largest targeted effort ever to teach youth about the dangers of drugs. The Campaign uses the full power of the modern media to encourage young people to reject drug use, and helps parents, teachers and other responsible adults talk to kids about drugs and get more involved in the lives of young people. Illicit drug use among young people age 12-17 declined or remained stable for four years in a row, and the average age of first-time use has gone up. Overall youth drug use is down by more than 20 percent, and youth marijuana use has declined by over 25 percent. Overall drug use is down since its peak in the 1970's, drug-related murders have fallen by 48 percent since 1992, and youth drug use is leveling off or declining. [Department of Health and Human Services Press Release 12/17/99, 8/31/00; HHS 2000 Monitoring the Future Survey, 12/14/00; SAMHSA, 1999 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse]

Preventing Violence with the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative. Evidence shows that a comprehensive, integrated community-wide approach is an effective way to address the problems of school violence and alcohol and other drug abuse and promote healthy childhood. In 1998, President Clinton unveiled the Administration's Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative (SS/HS), an unprecedented joint effort involving the Departments of Education, Justice, and Health and Human Services to help communities design and implement a comprehensive approach, including educational, mental health, social service, and law enforcement services for to help combat youth violence. SS/HS has provided \$146 million to 77 local education authorities who have established formal partnerships with local mental health and law enforcement agencies. This year, the President has called for a \$100 million expansion of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative.

Fighting Hate Crimes. The President enacted the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act in 1994. He held the historic White House Conference on Hate Crimes, where he called for passage of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act -- bipartisan legislation which would strengthen hate crimes laws and make it clear that America will not tolerate acts of violence based on race, color, gender, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability. [White House, Office of the Press Secretary, 11/10/97]

Protecting Children from Sex Offenders. President Clinton signed Megan's Law and the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act, requiring states to set up sex offender registration systems and require community notification when sex offenders are released from prison. [White House, Office of the Press Secretary, 5/17/96]

Welfare Reform and Community Empowerment: Moving Millions of Americans from Welfare to Work

Lowest Percentage of Americans on Welfare in 35 Years as More Recipients Go to Work. President Clinton has kept his promise to reform the welfare system and move more Americans from welfare to work. The percentage of Americans on welfare is at its lowest level since 1968 as record numbers of people move from welfare to work. Since January 1993, the number of people on welfare has fallen by nearly 60 percent, from 14.1 million to 5.8 million. More than 1.3 million welfare recipients went to work in 1998 alone, and the percentage of adults still on welfare who were working reached 33 percent in 1999, five times as many as in 1992. Through the Welfare to Work Partnership launched by the President, more than 20,000 businesses have hired 1.1 million former welfare recipients since 1997. [HHS Administration for Children and Families, 12/99 and 8/00; White House, Office of the Press Secretary, 8/22/00]

Creating New Tools to Help Families Move from Welfare to Work. The 1997 Balanced Budget Act signed by President Clinton included \$3 billion to move long-term welfare recipients and low-income non-custodial fathers into jobs. The President's Access to Jobs initiative helps communities design innovative transportation solutions, such as van services, to help former welfare recipients and other low-income workers get to work. President Clinton has secured nearly 200,000 new housing vouchers in the last three years to help welfare recipients and hard-pressed working families move closer to job opportunities. And the Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit provides tax incentives to encourage businesses to hire long-term welfare recipients. [Domestic Policy Council]

Doubled Child Support Collections. President Clinton signed into law the toughest child support crackdown in history. Federal and state child support programs broke new records in 1999, collecting nearly \$16 billion -- double the amount collected in 1992. The number of paternities established rose to a record 1.5 million in 1999 -- more than triple the number from 516,000 in 1992. The number of child support cases with collections more than doubled during the Clinton Administration, from 2.8 million in 1992 to 4.5 million in 1999. [Child Support Enforcement FY 1999 Preliminary Data Report, 10/00]

Teen Births Down to the Lowest Rate on Record. The teen birth rate has fallen eight years in a row, dropping 20 percent from 1991 to 1999 to the lowest rate in the 60 years data on teen births have been recorded. The teen pregnancy rate is also at the lowest rate on record. To build on this progress, the President's budget includes funding for "second chance homes" for teen parents. [Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics, Births: Preliminary Data for 1999; FY 2001 Budget, p. 66]

Child Abuse Declines for Five Years in a Row. The number of children abused and neglected has decreased approximately 11 percent from a record 1,018,692 in 1993. While this represents progress, President Clinton and Vice President Gore continue to work to protect the health and well-being of America's children, and ending child abuse. [HHS Press Release, 4/10/00]

Expanded Investment in Urban and Rural Areas. The Clinton-Gore Administration created 31 Empowerment Zones (EZs) and more than 100 Enterprise Communities (ECs), including 50 rural ECs, which have created new jobs, new opportunities and stronger communities. In 2000, President Clinton won funding for a third round of nine new EZs, bringing the total number to 40, and extended all EZs to 2009.

Encouraging Investment in Underserved Communities with the New Markets Initiative. President Clinton's New Markets Initiative will stimulate new private capital investments in economically distressed communities and build a network of private investment institutions to funnel credit, equity and technical assistance to businesses in America's new markets. President Clinton and Speaker Hastert worked together to

enact this bipartisan initiative as a part of the FY 2001 budget. The agreement includes extension and expansion of Empowerment Zones, an increase in the Low Income Housing Tax Credit, the creation of the New Markets Tax Credit, the creation of New Markets Venture Capital Firms, and the creation of 40 Renewal Communities. The President has taken three New Markets Tours of underserved communities, which have helped generate more than \$1 billion in private sector investment commitments.

Providing Incentives to Save. President Clinton signed legislation creating Individual Development Accounts, providing incentives through federal matching funds for low-income families to save for a first home, higher education, or to start a new business, a key part of his 1992 community empowerment agenda. In FY 1999, \$10 million was awarded to establish savings accounts for over 10,000 low-income workers in 40 communities, with an additional \$10 million awarded in FY 2000. The President won \$25 million in the FY 2001 budget to expand the IDA program. [FY 2001 Budget, p. 66; FY 2000 Budget, p. 82]

Health Care: Increasing Access and Improving the Nation's Health

Enacted Most Comprehensive Medicare Reforms in History. In the 1997 Balanced Budget, the Clinton-Gore Administration protected, modernized and extended the life of the Medicare Trust Fund while offering new options for patient choice and preventive care. New preventive benefits passed include coverage of annual mammograms, coverage of screening tests for both colorectal and cervical cancer, and a diabetes self-management benefit. The President proposed a plan to reform and modernize Medicare's benefits, including an optional prescription drug benefit that is affordable and available to all beneficiaries. The President has also proposed a reserve fund to help Medicare beneficiaries with extremely high prescription drug costs. [National Economic Council/Domestic Policy Committee, 7/2/99]

Extending the Life of the Medicare Trust Fund. When President Clinton and Vice President Gore took office, Medicare was expected to run out of money in 1999. Now, the life of the Trust Fund has been extended until 2025. Medicare is now in the soundest shape it has been since 1975. [HHS Press Release, 3/30/00]

Enacted Single Largest Investment in Health Care for Children since 1965. The five year, \$24 billion State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP) will provide health care coverage for up to five million children. Two million children have already been enrolled, and in October 1999 President Clinton announced new outreach initiatives to enroll millions more uninsured, eligible children. Last year, the President launched a nationwide "Insure Kids Now" campaign that will bring together major TV and radio networks, healthcare organizations, religious groups and other community-based organizations to help enroll more children in the Children's Health Insurance Program, with the goal of enrolling 5 million of the estimated 10 million children eligible for health insurance under S-CHIP within 5 years. In FY 2000, 3.3 million children nationwide received health insurance through SCHIP, a 70 percent increase over the nearly 2 million children enrolled in 1999 levels.

Passed Meaningful Health Insurance Reform. The President signed into law the Kennedy-Kassebaum Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, which helps individuals keep health insurance when they change jobs, guarantees renewability of coverage, and ensures access to health insurance for small businesses. As many as 25 million people will benefit from this law. The bill also eliminated the discriminatory tax treatment of the approximately 10 million Americans who are self-employed; strengthened efforts to combat health care fraud, waste and abuse by creating a stable source of funding; and provided consumer protections and tax incentives for private long-term care insurance. [FY 2000 Budget, p. 83; Domestic Policy Council]

More Americans Have Health Insurance. From 1998 to 1999, the number of Americans with health insurance rose by 1.7 million – two-thirds of them children. This is the first decline in the number of uninsured in 12 years. Factors contributing to the decline in the uninsured include the establishment of the historic S-CHIP program; the unprecedented outreach and enrollment efforts by the Administration and key states; and the improving economy in which increasing numbers of employers are offering health insurance. Despite historic gains, millions of Americans remain without insurance. The President and Vice President remain committed to provide health insurance coverage for all Americans. [Census Bureau, [Health Insurance Coverage: 1999](#), 9/28/00]

Enacted Historic Comprehensive FDA Reform that Expedited the Review and Approval of New Drug Products. The President signed into law the 1997 FDA Modernization Act that includes important measures to modernize and streamline the regulation of biological products; increase patient access to experimental drugs and medical devices; and accelerate review of important new medications. This reform builds on the administrative initiatives implemented under the Vice President's reinventing government effort which have led U.S. drug approvals to be as fast or faster than any other industrialized nation. Average drug approval times have dropped since the beginning of the Administration from almost three years to just over one year. [Domestic Policy Council]

Signed Mental Health Parity Provisions into Law. To help eliminate discrimination against individuals with mental illnesses, the President signed into law mental health parity provisions that prohibit health plans from establishing separate lifetime and annual limits for mental health coverage. In 1999, the White House held the first-ever Conference on Mental Health and released the Surgeon General's first Report on Mental Health. The FY 2001 budget increases resources for the prevention and treatment of mental health and substance abuse by 12 percent, providing nearly \$3 billion. [FY 2001 Budget, p. 246]

Expanded Health Care for Women with Cancer. In October 2000, President Clinton enacted the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act, which provides new treatment options to low-income, uninsured women with breast and cervical cancer who are diagnosed through federally sponsored screening programs. Women without health insurance are 40 percent more likely to die from breast cancer than insured women since they are likely to get needed care.

Signed Legislation to End Drive-Through Deliveries. President Clinton signed into law common sense legislation that requires health plans to allow new mothers to remain in the hospital for at least 48 hours following most normal deliveries and 96 hours after a Cesarean section. [Presidential Statement, 9/26/96]

Extended Strong, Enforceable Patient Protections for Millions of Americans. Leading by example, the President directed all federal agencies to ensure that their employees and beneficiaries have the benefits and rights guaranteed under the proposed Patients' Bill of Rights. 85 million Americans covered by federal health plans, and Medicare and Medicaid, have the security of knowing they will have fair access to health care thanks to the President's work. The President and Vice President have called for passage of the bipartisan Patients Bill of Rights Act, to ensure that all Americans have essential protections, such as guaranteed access to needed health care specialists; access to emergency room services when and where the need arises; continuity of care protections to assure patient care if a patient's health care provider is dropped; access to a timely internal and independent external appeals process with a medical necessity standard; assurance that doctors and patients can openly discuss treatment options; and an enforcement mechanism that ensures recourse for patients who have been harmed as a result of health plan actions. [FY 2000 Budget, p. 85]

Fighting Medicare Fraud and Waste. Since 1993, the Clinton-Gore Administration has assigned more federal prosecutors and FBI agents to fight health care fraud than ever before. As a result, convictions have gone up a full 410 percent, saving more than \$50 billion in health care claims. The Balanced Budget Act gave an array of new weapons in our fight to keep scam artists and fly-by-night health care out of Medicare and Medicaid. [Domestic Policy Council, Health Care Achievements]

Released Strong New Protections for the Privacy of Electronic Medical Records. The Clinton-Gore Administration released a new regulation to protect the privacy of electronic medical records held by health plans, health care clearinghouses, and health care providers. This rule would limit the use and release of private health information without consent; restrict the disclosure of protected health information to the minimum amount of information necessary; establish new requirements for disclosure of information to researchers and others seeking access to health records; and establish new administrative and criminal sanctions for the improper use or disclosure of private information. [Domestic Policy Council]

Implementing Comprehensive Nursing Home Quality Initiative. The Clinton-Gore Administration has issued the toughest nursing home regulations in the history of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, including increased monitoring of nursing homes to ensure that they are in compliance; requiring states to crack down on nursing homes that repeatedly violate health and safety requirements; and changing the inspection process to increase the focus on preventing bedsores, malnutrition and resident abuse. The FY 2001 budget includes a \$32 million (68 percent) increase for the Nursing Home Initiative, which ensures more rigorous inspections of nursing facilities and improves federal oversight of nursing home quality. [HHS Fact Sheet, 12/14/99]

Ensuring Safe Food for America's Families. President Clinton created the President's Council on Food Safety to develop a comprehensive food safety strategic plan for federal agencies. The Clinton-Gore Administration has implemented a new science-based inspection system -- Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points -- and reduced the prevalence of *salmonella* in raw meat and poultry by as much as 50 percent. The President signed the Food Quality Protection Act, which included special safeguards for kids and strengthened laws governing pesticides and food safety. The Administration also issued new rules to prevent foodborne illness caused by pathogens such as *E. coli*. [Executive Order 13100, 8/25/98; USDA Press Release, 10/7/99; USDA Press Release, 10/7/99]

Raised Child Immunization Rates to All Time High. Childhood immunization coverage rates in 1998 were the highest ever recorded. 90 percent of toddlers in 1996, 1997 and 1998 received the most critical doses of each of the routinely recommended vaccines, surpassing the President's 1993 goal. Because childhood vaccination levels in the United States are at an all-time high, disease and death from diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and Hib are at or near record lows. There was only one reported case of diphtheria, 100 reported cases of measles, and no reported cases of wild poliovirus in 1998. [HHS Fact Sheet, 9/23/99; HHS Fact Sheet, 12/31/99]

Promoting Reproductive Health. The Clinton-Gore Administration has taken strong steps to protect a woman's right to choose and to promote safe reproductive health services for women. The President has provided contraceptive coverage to more than a million women covered by federal health plans; provided family planning services to low income women through the Medicaid program; stood up against attempts to prohibit the FDA from approving RU-486; and continues to fight restrictions on international family planning. [Domestic Policy Council]

Environment: Growing the Economy And Improving the Environment

Preserving Our National Treasures. The Clinton-Gore Administration has protected tens of millions of acres, from the red rock canyons of Utah to the Florida Everglades. The Administration reached agreements to protect Yellowstone from mining and save the ancient redwoods of California's Headwaters Forest. In the FY 2000 budget, the President and Vice President won \$651 million (a 42 percent increase) for Lands Legacy, a historic initiative to strengthen federal efforts to preserve national treasures and provides communities with new resources to protect local green spaces. [Protecting Our National Treasures, Department of Interior; National Economic Council, 11/18/99]

Created Nine New National Monuments. The Clinton-Gore Administration has created nine new national monuments: Grand Staircase-Escalante, protecting spectacular red rock canyonlands in Utah; Grand Canyon-Parashant, protecting deep canyons, mountains and buttes on the north rim of the Grand Canyon; Agua Fria, protecting extensive prehistoric ruins in Arizona; the California Coastal monument, protecting thousands of islands, rocks and reefs along the California coast; Giant Sequoia National Monument in California's Sierra Nevada, protecting 34 groves of ancient sequoias, the largest trees on earth; Canyons of the Ancients National Monument protecting America's highest density of archeological sites in southwest Colorado; Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument protecting unmatched biological diversity in the Cascade Range in southern Oregon; Hanford Reach National Monument protecting critical habitat for salmon spawning along one of the last free-flowing stretches of the Columbia River in south central Washington; Ironwood Forest National Monument protecting rich stands of ironwood trees -- known to live more than 800 years -- in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona. The Administration also expanded Pinnacles National Monument in California to better protect the area's unusual rock formations, and designated Anderson Cottage, which served as Abraham Lincoln's summer home while he was president, a national monument. [Presidential Proclamations, 9/18/96, 1/11/00, 6/9/00, 7/7/00]

Preserving Our National Forests. The President directed the National Forest Service to develop and propose regulations to provide long-term protection for 40 million acres of roadless areas within national forests and ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy the pristine wilderness. The proposed regulations would ban road building in these areas and could also prohibit logging or other activities that harm their unique ecological value. [Executive Memorandum, 10/13/99]

Accelerating Toxic Cleanups and Brownfields Redevelopment. The Clinton-Gore Administration has completed clean up at more than 530 Superfund sites, more than three times as many as completed in the previous twelve years. Clean up of more than 91 percent of all sites is either completed or in progress. The Administration's brownfields redevelopment initiative has leveraged over \$2.3 billion in private sector investment and generated 6,400 jobs. [Environmental Protection Agency, Superfund NPL Construction Completions Since 1/20/93 to 6/22/99; EPA Headlines, www.epa.gov, 8/24/00]

Keeping Our Drinking Water Safe. The President proposed and signed legislation to strengthen the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure that our families have healthy, clean tap water. The Clinton-Gore Administration has required America's 55,000 water utilities to provide regular reports to their customers on the quality of their drinking water. The Administration significantly tightened the arsenic standard, providing additional protection to at least 22.5 million Americans from cancer and other health problems. The Administration has adopted or proposed new standards to provide the first-ever protection against waterborne illness like Cryptosporidium, potentially preventing more than half a million illnesses each year. The Administration also proposed new rule to reduce dirty runoff and strengthen protections for 20,000 rivers, lakes and other waterways too polluted for swimming and fishing. Ninety-one percent of America's tap water from community drinking water systems now meets all federal standards. [PL 104-182, 8/6/96; White House, Council on Environmental Quality, 4/22/99; Environmental Protection Agency, Summary of the 2000 Budget, p. 30; Environmental Protection Agency, Press Release, 5/24/00]

Clearing the Air of Unhealthy Pollution. The President and Vice President have adopted the toughest standards ever on soot and smog. They proposed significant reductions in tailpipe emissions from cars, light trucks and SUVs, and launched long-term effort to restore pristine skies over our national parks and wilderness areas. Since 1993, the number of Americans living in communities that meet federal air quality standards has grown by 43 million. [White House, Council on Environmental Quality, 5/1/99]

Reducing the Threat of Global Warming. The Clinton-Gore Administration negotiated an international treaty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an environmentally strong and economically sound way. The President and Vice President secured \$1.1 billion in FY 2000 for research and development of energy efficiency and clean energy technologies, and set a goal of tripling U.S. use of bio-energy and bio-products by 2010. The President issued several Executive Orders. The first order directs agencies to dramatically improve energy efficiency in federal buildings, saving taxpayers over \$750 million a year when fully implemented. The second order improves fuel efficiency by requiring the Federal government to reduce fuel use in its vehicle fleets by 20 percent in five years. The third order offers federal workers incentives to use public transportation, cutting fuel use and the pollution that contributes to climate change. President Clinton won \$1.2 billion in the FY 2001 budget for the Climate Change Technology Initiative, the backbone of the national effort to reduce greenhouse gases while creating jobs and saving consumers money. [EPA; National Economic Council, 11/18/99; Executive Memorandum, 8/12/99; Executive Order, 6/3/99; Executive Order, 4/22/00]

Protecting Oceans and Coasts. The Clinton-Gore Administration extended the moratorium on new oil leasing off most of the U.S. coast through 2012, and permanently barred new leasing in national marine sanctuaries. They directed the development of key recommendations for strengthening federal oceans policy for the 21st century and appointed a high-level task force to oversee the implementation of those recommendations and launched a new era of ocean exploration where federal researchers will collaborate with marine research institutions and universities for ocean exploration. The President and Vice President secured a funding increase of over 100 percent to better support national marine sanctuaries, and have led the world in calling for a global ban on ocean dumping of low-level radioactive waste. [White House Executive Order 5/26/00, Office of the Press Secretary, 6/12/98; Executive Order 6/11/98; Office of the Press Secretary 11/3/93]

Science and Technology: A Strong Research and Development Agenda

Unprecedented Investment in Biomedical Research. This year, the National Institutes of Health will receive a \$2.5 billion increase over last year to broaden research on diseases such as diabetes, cancer, and brain disorders, and disease prevention strategies and vaccines. NIH resources have doubled under the Clinton Administration, from \$10.3 billion in FY 1993 to \$20.3 billion in FY 2001. As a result, NIH now supports the highest levels of research ever on nearly all types of disease and health conditions, making new breakthroughs possible in vaccine development and use, the treatment of chronic disease, and prevention and treatment of diseases.

Sustaining U.S. Leadership across the Scientific Frontiers. President Clinton won a \$529 million increase in FY 2001 for the National Science Foundation — the largest increase ever — for a total investment of \$4.4 billion. The budget boosts university-based research and insure balanced support for all science and engineering disciplines. Increased investments will spur new discoveries in the fields of information technology, nanotechnology, biocomplexity, and other areas of fundamental science and engineering.

Ensuring U.S. Leadership in Space Science and Exploration. The Clinton-Gore Administration won a \$684 million increase, bringing the total to \$14.3 billion, for NASA in FY 2001. These resources will help

NASA meet its human space flight needs more safely and at lower cost through a new generation of space launch vehicles and enable it to establish a sustained human presence in earth orbit and a robotic presence on Mars.

Strengthening the Economy and National Security with Information Technology. The Clinton Administration won a \$424 million increase to \$2 billion to help ensure that America leads the world in information technologies that predict tornadoes, design life-saving drugs, and make air travel safer and more efficient, and maintain our nuclear weapons stockpile without nuclear testing.

Investing in Energy Research. As part of the Clinton-Gore plan to reduce our nation's reliance on oil and lower the nation's fuel bills, the FY 2001 budget includes increases for the Department of Energy's domestic energy research and development programs: a \$65 million increase for solar and renewable energy; \$49 million (8 percent) for energy efficiency (including \$13 million for hybrid vehicle or "supercar" research); and \$111 million (27 percent) increase for fossil energy. It also includes a \$20 million increase at the Environmental Protection Agency for energy efficiency research and development. These initiatives will help our nation achieve greater energy security, reduce pollution, and create new high-tech industries and jobs. The budget also boosts basic research in the Department of Energy's Office of Science by \$399 million, or 14 percent.

Changing the Way Government Does Business: Doing More for Less

Results from the Reinventing Government Initiative. Overall, the Vice President's National Performance Review recommended and Congress adopted savings of about \$136 billion since 1993. [National Performance Review, Accomplishments Fact Sheet]

Smallest Federal Civilian Workforce in 40 Years. Since President Clinton and Vice President Gore took office, the Federal workforce has been cut by 377,000 – nearly a fifth – and is now lower than any time since 1960. [National Partnership for Reinventing Government, Accomplishments Fact Sheet; National Economic Council, 6/26/00]

Lowest Federal Spending as a Share of the Economy Since 1966. The spending restraint under President Clinton has brought government spending down from 22.2 percent of GDP in 1992 to a projected 18.5 percent of GDP in 2000 – the lowest since 1966. At the same time, President Clinton has increased investments in education, technology and other areas that are vital to growth. [National Economic Council, 6/26/00]

Slowest Per Capita Growth of Government Spending Since the 1950's. During the Clinton-Gore Administration, federal spending – on a per capita basis – grew at the slowest rate since the Eisenhower Administration, not including inflation. [National Performance Review, Accomplishments Fact Sheet]

Increasing Participation in Our Democracy with the Motor Voter Law. President Clinton signed the National Voter Registration Act during his first year in office -- making voting easier for millions more Americans, and leading to the registration of more than 28 million new voters. [Presidential Statement, 5/20/93; FEC, 6/99; FEC, 6/97]

Foreign Policy: World's Strongest Force for Peace, Freedom and Prosperity

Promoting Peace and Strengthening Democracy

- **Advancing peace in the Middle East** by hosting the Camp David Summit between Israelis and Palestinians, which constituted the first high-level discussions of all permanent status issues; brokering

- peace agreements between Israel and its other neighbors, including the Palestinians and Jordan; negotiating the Wye River Accords; supporting the launch of final settlement negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians; and revitalizing peace talks between the Syrians and Israelis.
- **Stabilizing Southeast Europe by ending a decade of repression and ethnic cleansing in Kosovo** through leading NATO alliance to victory in air campaign and ushering in international peacekeepers, and by launching the Stability Pact to strengthen democracy, economic development and security throughout the region and accelerating its integration with the rest of Europe
 - **Helped broker the Good Friday Peace Accord in Northern Ireland**, ending decades of bloodshed and empowering the people of Northern Ireland to determine their future.
 - Led diplomatic efforts to **end the civil war and foster multi-ethnic democracy in Bosnia**.
 - **Restored democratic government in Haiti**, ending military dictatorship and stopping refugee flows.
 - Supporting transitions to democracy in **South Africa, Nigeria, Indonesia, Central Europe and the Baltics** and supporting the mediation of peace efforts in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, Sierra Leone, Burundi, and Ethiopia-Eritrea**.
 - **Helped end violence and protected democracy in East Timor** by leading diplomatic efforts and supporting international peacekeeping mission.
 - Helped settle the **Peru-Ecuador** border dispute and end civil war in **Guatemala**.
 - Pressing for human rights and religious freedom worldwide, including in **China, Burma and Sudan**.
 - **Re-started talks** toward a comprehensive settlement on **Cyprus**.

Combating Threats

- **Protecting Americans from weapons of mass destruction** by working to reduce Russian nuclear arsenals through implementation of strategic arms control agreements (START) and cooperative threat reduction programs, permanently eliminating nuclear weapons from Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan, easing nuclear tensions between India and Pakistan, signing the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, and achieving the indefinite extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention.
- **Enhancing military stability in Europe** by successfully concluding the adapted Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty.
- **Combating terrorism** by developing a national counter-terrorism strategy, appointing a national coordinator and striking terrorist targets in Afghanistan and Sudan.
- **Waging war on drugs** by intensifying interdiction efforts, strengthening cooperation with allies, cracking down on drug lords and providing \$1.3 billion in assistance for Colombia.
- **Reducing North Korean threat** through deterrence, including the forward deployment of 37,000 U.S. troops; diplomacy, including bilateral talks leading to a moratorium on long-range missile testing; and non-proliferation, including the eventual dismantling of North Korea's dangerous nuclear facilities.
- **Containing Iraq while working toward regime change** through deterrence, economic sanctions, humanitarian assistance for the Iraqi people from the oil-for-food program, and support for popular opposition to Saddam Hussein's regime.
- **Addressing new threats** by protecting America's critical infrastructure from cyber-terrorism and biological and chemical weapons.
- **Discussed development of a limited national missile defense** to protect against attacks from states that threaten international peace and security while preserving strategic stability with Russia.
- **Strengthening military readiness and modernizing our armed forces**.
- **Combating trafficking in persons**, especially women and children, through the development of an integrated strategy that focuses on prevention, prosecution of traffickers, and protection of and assistance to victims.

- **Fighting proliferation** by improving controls over Russian nuclear weapon materials, and by funding legitimate employment opportunities for former Russian nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons researchers and institutes as an alternative to selling their skills abroad.
- **Negotiating a protocol to the Convention on Conventional Weapons**, banning antipersonnel landmines that do not self-destruct and self-deactivate, signed by all the major mine-producing nations.
- **Waging war on international crime** by strengthening U.S. law enforcement programs and bilateral, regional and global cooperation related to drug trafficking, money laundering and other international organized crime and by providing \$1.3 billion in additional funding for critical counter-drug and related initiatives throughout the Andean Region.
- Mobilizing leadership and resources – including the **development of new vaccines – to fight AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis**, which threaten development, economic growth, stability and security.

Strengthening Alliances and Building Partnerships

- **Fulfilling vision of an undivided, democratic and peaceful Europe** by enlarging NATO, integrating Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic and Southeast Europe, and strengthening NATO's partnerships with Russia, Ukraine and the other New Independent States.
- **Building a more constructive relationship with China** through engagement and frank dialogue, leading to cooperation on non-proliferation and regional security, environmental protection.
- **Deepening security alliance with Japan** through adoption of Defense Guidelines and Joint Security Declaration.
- **Strengthening cooperation with South Korea** through jointly offered Four Party Peace Talks with North Korea and the establishment of Trilateral Consultation and Oversight Group to coordinate North Korea policy.
- Supporting democracy, human rights, and market economies in **Russia, Ukraine, and the countries of the former Soviet Union** and promoting their international integration
- **Secured landmark agreements to develop oil and gas pipelines from the Caspian Sea to the Mediterranean Sea**, strengthening ties in the region and ensuring Americans have continued access to vital natural resources.
- **Expanding trade and strengthening democracy in Asia and Latin America** through the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, the Summit of the Americas, and the Organization of American States.
- **Strengthening ties with Africa** by launching the new Partnership for Economic Growth and Opportunity, achieving passage of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and supporting the Africa Crisis Response Initiative and other regional peacekeeping efforts.
- **Preserved U.S. leadership role at the United Nations** by reaching agreement with Congress that would enable us to pay \$1 billion in back dues. Deepened security ties with the Philippines through adoption of the Visiting Forces Agreement.

Expanding Prosperity

- **Opening markets for U.S. exports abroad and creating American jobs** through NAFTA, GATT and nearly 300 other free and fair trade agreements.
- **Integrating China into the world economy** through landmark agreement for China's entry into the World Trade Organization that opens markets to U.S. exports, slashes Chinese tariffs, and protects American workers from dumping.
- **Established World Trade Organization** to reduce tariffs, settle trade disputes, and enforce rules.
- **Reduced the possibility that a future Asian financial crisis would undermine America's prosperity by promoting structural reform** -- including sound monetary policies, urging banking reforms and fighting corruption abroad.

- **Stimulating worldwide growth** through support for the IMF and G-8 global economic strategy.
- **Assisted Mexico's economic recovery** with \$20 billion in emergency support loans.
- **Forgave \$500 million in African debt**, announced initiative to link debt relief to health and education investments, and forged agreement among G-8 industrialized countries to provide additional debt relief.
- Helped to **overcome the Asian financial crisis** through support for multilateral and bilateral efforts and through keeping America's markets open at a critical juncture.
- **Helped facilitate disaster relief and** reconstruction in Central American countries affected by Hurricane Mitch, committing \$940 million to economic reactivation, education, public health, and future mitigation.
- **Helped Brazil avert financial crisis** by backing \$41.5 billion international support package.

[National Security Council]

January 2001

PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE: PROGRESS ON AMERICA'S PRIORITIES

FISCAL DISCIPLINE

The budget is a victory for President Clinton and Vice President Gore's stand for fiscal discipline. By balancing competing needs and maintaining fiscal discipline, the Fiscal Year 2001 budget continues the successful strategy that has fostered the longest economic expansion in the nation's history. America can stay on course to pay off the debt held by the public by 2012 for the first time since Andrew Jackson was president.

✓ **The National Debt Quadrupled between 1981 and 1992.** Between 1981 and 1992, the debt held by the public quadrupled. When President Clinton took office in 1992, the budget deficit was \$290 billion. In 1992, the deficit was projected to grow to more than \$455 billion by 2000.

✓ **President Clinton's Tough Choices Led to Largest Surplus Ever.** As a result of the tough and sometimes unpopular choices made by President Clinton—including the deficit reduction legislation of 1993 and 1997—we have seen eight consecutive years of fiscal improvement for the first time in America's history. Last year, the federal government has a unified surplus of \$237 billion, the largest ever. Federal spending as a share of the economy is the lowest since 1966.

✓ **America Has Paid Down \$363 Billion in Debt Held by the Public over the Last Three Years, the Largest Debt Pay-Down Ever.** The debt at the end of FY 2000 was \$2.4 trillion lower than it was projected to be in the last forecast before the President's program was put in place. Under the President's budget, publicly held debt can be eliminated by 2012. This achievement has kept interest rates down and confidence and investment up, contributing to the strongest American economy in generations.

✓ **The Solvency of Social Security and Medicare Has Been Extended.** In his 1998 and 1999 State of the Union addresses, President Clinton called on the nation to save the surplus until the solvency of Social Security is assured, leading to a bipartisan consensus on saving the surplus and paying down the debt. When President Clinton took office, Medicare was expected to become insolvent in 1999, then only six years away. The 1993 deficit reduction act dedicated some of the taxes paid by Social Security beneficiaries to the Medicare Trust Fund and extended the life of Medicare by three years to 2002. Thanks to additional provisions to combat waste, fraud and abuse and bipartisan cooperation in the 1997 balanced budget agreement, Medicare is now expected to remain solvent until 2025.

✓ **The President Stopped Republican Attempts to Reverse this Fiscal Discipline.** The Republican Congress's policies would have threatened the nation's fiscal discipline. According to Congress' own calculations, the tax cuts House Republicans passed this year would have cost \$734 billion over 10 years, which with interest would have drained over \$900 billion from the surplus. The tax cuts passed this year and those endorsed for next year by the Republican Party would drain over \$2 trillion, more than the entire budget surplus (projected to be \$1.8 trillion).

Twice this year, President Clinton vetoed tax legislation to maintain our fiscal discipline and prevent American from being plunged back into deficits.

✓ **Debt Reduction Benefits the Economy and American Families.** The lower national debt:

- **Keeps investment and growth strong.** With the government no longer draining resources from capital markets, interest rates are lower and businesses have more funds for productive investment. Paying off the debt will continue to help fuel investment and productivity growth while increasing productive capacity and restraining inflation.
- **Saves money for families.** Because of the deficit and debt reduction we have already done, a typical family can expect to save \$2,000 a year on their home mortgage.
- **Saves money for taxpayers.** Currently we spend 12 cents of every federal dollar on net interest payments. These payments, which were once projected to grow to 25 percent of all federal spending in 2012, can be completely eliminated by following the President's plan.
- **Prepares for retiring baby boomers.** By paying off the debt, eliminating interest payments, and dedicating the resulting benefits to extending Medicare and Social Security solvency, debt reduction can free up funds for investment and boost workers' productivity and incomes and help the nation prepare for the challenge of the retiring baby boomers.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Over the past eight years, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have invested more in our schools and demanded more from them. The implementation of this approach has helped test scores rise. SAT and ACT scores have also risen in the 1990s and are now at the highest level in a quarter of a century, even as more minority, low-income, and limited English proficient students take these tests. More students than ever before are graduating from high school and enrolling in college. This year, President Clinton and Vice President Gore again delivered on their ambitious education agenda.

✓ **Building and Modernizing Schools.** An estimated 3.5 million students attend schools that need extensive repair or replacement. Research shows that the physical structure of the school building directly affects the ability of students to learn. President Clinton fought for a federal investment in our schools because all students deserve a safe, healthy, and modern place to learn. The final budget includes:

- **\$1.2 Billion for Urgent Repairs.** The final budget includes a \$1.2 billion initiative for emergency school renovation, based on the proposal in President Clinton's budget. The Republican budget did not provide dedicated funding for school renovation. The initiative will help schools make much-needed repairs, such as roofs, heating and cooling systems, and electrical wiring. The assistance would be targeted to high-need districts and includes \$75 million for public schools with high concentrations of Native American students. Up to one-fourth of the funds could be used for special education and technology.

- **Native American Schools.** President Clinton has won \$293 million—a \$160 million increase and more than double last year's level of \$133 million—to replace and repair BIA-funded schools on reservations. This is the largest investment ever in a single year for BIA school construction and repair. These schools have an \$800 million backlog in health, safety, and other critical needs.

✓ **Ensuring More High-Quality Teachers for Smaller Classes.** The final budget provides a \$323 million increase to improve educational results by reducing class size in the early grades to 18 or below with well-qualified teachers in the early grades. These resources will keep us on the path to our goal of hiring 100,000 high-quality teachers across the country by 2005.

✓ **Increasing the Number of Children in After-School.** The final budget provides a \$392 million increase for 21st Century Community Learning Centers, nearly doubling funding to \$846 million. This initiative will provide more high-quality extended learning opportunities for 1.3 million children, offering a safe place for "latch-key" children to learn in the after-school hours.

✓ **Strengthening Accountability for Fixing Failing Schools.** The budget provides \$225 million—a \$91 million increase—to accelerate efforts by states and school districts to improve accountability and turn around failing schools. These resources will help states and districts invest in proven reforms, such as research-based curricula, professional development and smaller classes, to fix failing schools.

✓ **Strengthening Teacher Quality.** The budget provides an increase of almost \$200 million to enhance teacher quality and make progress towards ensuring a qualified teacher in

every classroom. The agreement includes: \$485 million for Eisenhower Professional Development Grants to promote professional development along with school and classroom-based improvements linked to state standards and assessments; \$45 million to help states align teaching with their accountability systems under Title I; \$30 million to help recruit talented mid-career professionals and college graduates into teaching while retaining more good teachers with mentoring and other supports; and \$15 million to train early childhood educators and caregivers in advancing children's language and literacy skills to help prevent later difficulties in learning and reading.

✓ **Expanding College Opportunity.** More and higher quality education is more important to economic opportunity than ever before. The final budget includes key elements of the President's request for a \$1 billion boost in investments to make college more affordable for economically disadvantaged students.

- **Largest Maximum Pell Grant Award Ever.** Pell scholarships for needy students are the foundation of student aid. The final budget provides \$8.8 billion for Pell Grants, increasing the maximum Pell Grant award from \$3,300 last year to \$3,750. The maximum award has increased by 63 percent since President Clinton and Vice President Gore took office in 1993, when it was \$2,300. The final budget also includes the President's requested \$60 million increase for Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, the largest increase in a decade.

- **Support for One Million Students To Work Their Way Through College.** The final budget includes the President's request for \$1 billion for Federal Work-Study to meet his commitment to allowing one million students the opportunity to earn money for college through part-time work.

- **Early Intervention to Help Disadvantaged Students Prepare for College.** House Republicans proposed to freeze the President's GEAR UP college preparation initiative for low-income students at \$200 million, a level that would have forced existing GEAR UP programs to scrap plans to help 250,000 new disadvantaged 6th and 7th graders. The final budget provides \$295 million for GEAR UP, supporting state projects and partnerships of colleges, high-poverty schools, and community organizations, to help 1.2 million students aspire to and prepare for college starting in the 7th grade.

- **TRIO and Key Elements of College Completion Challenge Grants.** This year, President Clinton's budget included the largest one-year ever requested by any President. The final budget funds TRIO at \$730 million—a \$85 million increase, the second largest ever—to help motivate and prepare 765,000 low-income and first-generation-college students to go to and stay in college. In addition, the budget includes key elements of the President's College Completion Challenge Grants proposal to provide additional scholarships, support services, and summer programs to help more at-risk youth succeed in college.

✓ **Strengthening the Hispanic Education Action Plan.** The budget includes over \$1 billion in increases to programs that help Latino students succeed, including a \$660 million increase for Title I grants to school districts; a \$91 million increase for Adult Education, including \$70 million for English Literacy/Civics; an additional \$48 million for Bilingual Education; an \$85 million increase for TRIO and a \$95 million increase for GEAR UP; and an \$8 million increase for the High School Equivalency and College Assistance Migrant Program.

✓ **Creating Smaller, Safer and More Successful High Schools.** The budget provides \$125 million, an \$80 million increase, to help create smaller and more supportive learning environments in approximately 1,000 of the nation's largest high schools through innovations like schools-within-schools or career academies that allow teachers to spend more quality instructional time with students.

✓ **Expanding Public School Choice with More Support for Charter Schools.** This \$45 million increase will support the start up of 450 new or redesigned schools that offer enhanced public school choice and have the flexibility to offer innovative educational programs in exchange for greater accountability for student achievement. There was one charter school at the start of this Administration. With this budget increase, the Administration will have supported 2,800 charter schools. One of the biggest stumbling blocks facing charter schools is the lack of appropriate facilities, and the budget builds on the Clinton-Gore legacy of support for charters and public school choice by creating a \$25 million demonstration program that will allow nonprofit organizations to leverage federal funds to help charter schools secure better facilities.

✓ **Promoting Safer Schools and Healthier Students.** The budget provides a \$75 increase for Safe Schools/Healthy Students, to \$222 million. The President launched this initiative in 1999 to provide students, schools and communities the benefit of enhanced comprehensive educational, mental health, social service, and law enforcement services. Last year, \$147 million was provided to 77 local education authorities that established formal partnerships with local mental health and law enforcement agencies.

✓ **Creating Economic Opportunities through Job Training.** The budget expands successful training programs and implements new ones focused on providing needed training for young people, displaced workers and individuals with disabilities.

- **Youth Opportunity Grants and Youth Training Activities Grants.** Youth Opportunity Grants are an initiative to provide comprehensive employment and training assistance to all out-of-school young people in high poverty areas. The final budget provides \$275 million, enough to serve an estimated 63,000 youth in high poverty areas. In addition, the final budget provides a \$102 million increase (to \$1.1 billion) to the Youth Activities Formula Grants, enough to provide job training and summer job opportunities to roughly 660,000 disadvantaged young people.

- **Youthbuild.** Through the Youthbuild program, 16-to-24-year-old high-school dropouts rehabilitate and build housing for low-income and homeless people. The program provides youth with education and employment skills while expanding affordable housing. Funded at \$60 million, the Youthbuild programs will provide opportunities for approximately 3,400 trainees, 1,400 more than this year.

- **Job Corps.** Job Corps is the nation's largest and most comprehensive residential education and job training program targeted at impoverished young people. The final budget increases Job Corps funding by \$42 million to \$1.4 billion, helping 74,000 youth.

- **Universal Reemployment Initiative.** This initiative includes the Dislocated Worker program and new Reemployment Services grants. The \$1.6 billion Dislocated Worker Training program provides training and support services to help permanently dislocated workers return to productive, unsubsidized employment. The final budget includes \$25 million for Reemployment grants that will provide services to 156,000 Unemployment Insurance claimants to help them get jobs faster.
- **Promoting Responsible Reintegration for Young Offenders.** The budget provides \$55 million for a new initiative in the Department of Labor to help young offenders under the age of 35 successfully reintegrate into the mainstream economy. Competitive grants will be made to partnerships between the criminal justice system and local workforce investment systems. Partnerships will coordinate with reentry partnerships and reentry courts funded through the Department of Justice and substance abuse and mental health funding from the Department of Health and Human Services.

CHILD CARE

The number of children with parents who work outside of the home is higher than ever before. In 1996, three out of four mothers with young children worked outside of the home, compared to one in four in 1965. During the Clinton-Gore Administration, funding for child care has more than doubled. Still, many eligible children do not receive assistance. The Clinton-Gore Administration proposed, fought for, and won major components of a comprehensive child care initiative to address the struggles our nation's working parents face in finding child care they can afford, trust and rely on.

✓ **Providing More Children Access to Head Start than Ever Before.** President Clinton won \$6.2 billion in funding for Head Start—a \$933 million increase over last year and the largest funding request ever proposed or received for the program. It will provide access to Head Start and Early Head Start for approximately 935,000 children in 2001, and is a large step toward the goal of serving one million children in 2002. Head Start prepares low-income children for a lifetime of learning and development by providing early, continuous and comprehensive child development and family support services.

✓ **Helping More Low-Income Families Afford Child Care.** The President fought for an \$817 million increase for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, to \$2 billion. This increase will enable the program to provide child care subsidies for nearly 150,000 more children in 2001. These new resources, combined with the child care funds provided in welfare reform, will serve over 2.2 million children in 2001, an increase of nearly 1 million since 1997. The Child Care and Development Block Grant is the primary federal effort to help low-income families pay for child care, helping low-income parents to work. The final negotiations with Congress also included \$272 million for improving the quality of child care, \$100 million of which must be used to improve the quality of infant and toddler care; \$10 million for child care research; and \$19 million for school-aged care and to improve information for parents about child care in their communities, including \$1 million for a toll-free child care information hotline for parents.

✓ **Promoting Early Learning by Improving the Quality of Child Care.** At the beginning of this year, President Clinton called on Congress to include an Early Learning Fund in the budget to help improve child care quality and early childhood education for children under five years old. The final budget included the Stevens-Kennedy Early Learning Opportunities Act and provided \$20 million to allow states to help communities foster cognitive development, improve child care quality and promote readiness for school. Resources could be used to: help child care providers get training or certification; teach parents and caregivers how to facilitate development of cognitive skills and language comprehension; increase access to existing child care programs by expanding the days or times that children are served; enhance childhood literacy; improve quality of existing early learning programs through recruitment, retention and professional development incentives; and increase early learning opportunities for children with special needs.

✓ **Encouraging the Pursuit of Higher Education by Offering College Campus-Based Child Care.** To enable low-income parents to pursue higher education, the budget includes \$25 million—a \$20 million increase over last year's funding level—to provide an additional 300

college campuses with grants to support the establishment or expansion of child care services for students. States may also use a share of the Child Care and Development Block Grant for this purpose.

HEALTH CARE

The President negotiated \$35 billion in gross new investments over five years in Medicare, Medicaid, and S-CHIP beneficiaries and providers. He also won a \$5 billion investment in public health programs with the Department of Health and Human Services, 16 percent above last year's level, to strengthen the public health infrastructure, provide critical prevention and treatment services to individuals with mental illness. Overall, the Health and Human Services budget increased by nearly \$9 billion (or 22 percent) this year and \$23 billion (or 90 percent) since 1993. The budget will advance biomedical research with a historic investment of \$20.5 billion.

✓ **Investing in Medicare, Medicaid, and S-CHIP Beneficiaries and Providers.** The budget enacts the Medicare, Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Benefits Improvement and Protection Act (BIPA), investing nearly \$35 billion over five years to:

- **Improves Service to Medicare Beneficiaries, Including Preventative Care.** The bill expands Medicare's preventive benefits to include new nutrition therapy and glaucoma screening and greater access to colon and cervical cancer screening. It reduces the cost-sharing that beneficiaries have to pay for hospital outpatient services; provides permanent coverage of drugs that help prevent the rejection of organ transplants; and facilitates the use of therapeutic adult day care services for persons with Alzheimer's disease. It waives the 24-month waiting period for Medicare for people with Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS).

- **Provides Health Coverage for Vulnerable Populations.** The budget:

- Expands Medicaid coverage for people leaving welfare for work. BIPA extends for another year a program that provides health care coverage for persons leaving welfare for work.

- Enhances outreach and enrollment for children eligible for Medicaid and S-CHIP. BIPA permits states to enroll uninsured but eligible children in Medicaid and SCHIP at schools, child support enforcement agencies, program eligibility centers, and other sites.

- Simplifies enrollment of low-income Medicare beneficiaries in cost-assistance programs through a uniform application and outreach through Social Security.

- **Restore Reimbursements to Medicare and Medicaid Providers.** The BIPA addresses the needs of health care providers affected by the disproportionate cuts of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 by increasing Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement to:

- **Hospitals** receive a full inflation update for 2001; two years of a 6.5 percent indirect medical education teaching adjustment; higher reimbursement for outpatient services in 2001; improvements for rural hospitals; greater funding for safety hospitals that serve low-income and uninsured populations; and more funding for specialty hospitals such as long-term care, psychiatric and rehabilitation facilities.

- **Home Health Agencies** receive an extra year's delay in a 15 percent cut in reimbursement; a full inflation update in 2001; and additional payments for agencies that serve rural beneficiaries.

- **Skilled Nursing Facilities** receive a full inflation update in 2001; greater payments for nursing costs; a further delay in the use of caps on therapy services; and increased reimbursement for rehabilitation therapy services.

- **Managed Care Plans** receive an increase in the minimum floor payments; a one-time increase in the minimum annual update from 2 to 3 percent; phase-in of risk-adjustment to pay

plans appropriately based on a patient's health; and improved accountability for plans by increasing penalties for plans that break their Medicare contracts.

- **Other Providers** receive a rate increase, such as dialysis facilities; a 5 percent increase in hospice payments; inflation updates for suppliers of durable medical equipment and orthotics and prosthetics; a rate update for ambulance providers; and a prospective payment system for community health centers and rural health clinics that ensures adequate reimbursement

- **Makes Other Important Reforms.** The bill incorporates an Administration regulation closing a loophole in Medicaid reimbursement policy that threatens its fiscal integrity; reallocates a portion of unused SCHIP funds among states that have exhausted their allotments and enables other states to retain a portion of their expiring SCHIP allotment; increases funding for research and education for juvenile diabetes and diabetes among Native Americans; and increases the authorization for the Title V Maternal and Child Health program.

- ✓ **Investing in Health Research.** The budget provides an historic investment of \$20.3 billion in the National Institutes of Health, a 14 percent increase over last year. These resources will support new methods for detecting, treating, and curing diseases such as cancer, Alzheimer's, and diabetes as well as continue to support cutting-edge research such as the Human Genome Project. NIH resources have increased by \$10 billion during the Clinton Administration and are now nearly double the 1993 level of \$10.3 billion.

- ✓ **Increasing Funding to Explore the Environmental Causes of Disease.** The budget provides \$49 million, a 169 percent increase, to assist communities investigating unusual incidence of cancer or other diseases; identify regions of the country in which individuals are at increased risk of dangerous exposure to toxic substances; and ensure rapid evaluation of the impact of public health emergencies.

- ✓ **Supporting Graduate Medical Education at Children's Hospitals.** The budget provides \$235 million to reimburse freestanding children's hospitals that train and educate physicians to care for children, a five-fold increase over last year.

- ✓ **Expanding AIDS Care, Prevention, and Research.** Building on the historic reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act, this budget includes: a \$94 million increase in funding for domestic HIV prevention activities; \$213 million for the Ryan White CARE Act that helps provide primary care and support for Americans living with HIV/AIDS; and an estimated \$200 million in additional funds for AIDS-related research at the NIH. The budget also added nearly \$100 million in funding to the Minority AIDS Initiative, which utilizes existing programs to reach African-Americans, Latinos, and other racial and ethnic minorities that are disproportionately impacted by HIV/AIDS. CDC received an additional \$70 million to fight AIDS internationally.

- ✓ **Funding the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Trust Fund Act.** The budget provides \$580 million for a total funding of \$665 million for the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Trust Fund, which provides one-time payments of \$100,000 to Americans with hemophilia who were infected with HIV by blood solids during the 1980s.

✓ **Creating the Family Caregivers Program.** The budget provides a major new investment of \$125 million in the Older Americans Act to provide states with funding for quality respite care and other essential services for family caregivers, a proposal advocated by Vice President Gore. This program is a critical piece of the President's historic long-term care initiative.

✓ **Improving Nursing Home Safety.** The budget includes a \$32 million (68 percent) increase for the new Nursing Home Initiative for more rigorous inspections of nursing facilities and improved federal oversight and enforcement of nursing home quality.

✓ **Increasing Access to Health Care for the Uninsured.** The budget invests \$125 million to develop integrated systems of care for the uninsured through coordination between public hospitals, health centers, and other community-based providers, increase the number of services delivered and establishing accountability in the system to assure adequate patient care.

✓ **Making Our Food Safe.** The President won his entire request of \$422 million for food safety, a \$68 million increase over last year. These resources will support enhanced and expanded food safety inspections; outbreak responses; research, risk assessment and education activities; and implementation of the Egg Safety Action Plan adopted by the President's Council on Food Safety.

✓ **Improving States' Capacity to Deliver Health Care Services to the Mentally Ill.** The budget provides an additional \$64 million above the FY 2000 funding level for the Mental Health Block Grant, an 18 percent increase over FY 2000. It also includes \$25 million for a new Target Capacity Expansion program to focus on prevention and those who are not severely mentally ill.

✓ **Expanding Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment.** The budget continues the Administration's commitment to expanding substance abuse prevention and treatment with a \$135 million increase to \$2.1 billion total, a 31 percent increase since 1993. This includes an additional \$74 million for Targeted Capacity Expansion grants to help communities address gaps in substance abuse services for emerging areas of need. Combined with an additional \$65 million for the Substance Abuse Block Grant, the budget will provide treatment for another 27,000 individuals.

✓ **Promoting Community-Based Care for Americans with Disabilities.** The budget invests \$50 million to help states develop comprehensive plans to care for persons with disabilities in the most appropriate setting.

✓ **Protecting Patient Safety.** To reduce medical errors, the budget provides the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality with \$50 million for research and the creation of a new Center for Patient Safety. In 2001, the Food and Drug Administration received a 35 percent increase in funding over FY 2000, to \$27 million, to fund the modernization of its existing adverse event reporting systems.

✓ **Preparing for and Preventing Bioterrorist Attacks.** The budget fully funds President Clinton's request of \$326 million to stockpile vaccines, antibiotics, and other medical supplies to deploy in the event of a chemical or biological terrorist attack and carry out related research and development.

✓ **Reducing Racial Disparities in Health Status.** The budget provides an additional \$8 million, a 26 percent increase over the FY 2000 funding level, for health research and prevention activities to better understand and address health disparities among minority populations.

✓ **Providing Quality Health Care to Native Americans:** The budget provides \$2.6 billion, a 9 percent increase, for high-quality health care services on American Indian and Alaska Native reservations. This is the largest increase in history and it will fund:

- **Clinical Services:** The budget provides \$80 billion, \$168 million over last year, including funds to hire health care professionals to provide additional primary care services at IHS hospitals and clinics and to purchase additional basic and specialty health care services from local and community health care providers.

- **Contract Support Costs:** The budget provides \$249 million, \$20 million over the FY 2000 enacted level, to support tribes as they assume responsibility for providing direct health care services.

- **Indian Health Care Improvement Fund:** Within Hospital and Clinics, the budget provides \$30 million to address funding disparities by targeting increases to tribes most in need.

- **Facilities:** The budget provides \$364 million, \$47 million over FY 2000 enacted, to make much needed improvements to IHS' infrastructure for the delivery of health care services to patients.

✓ **Preventing Childhood Diseases.** The budget provides an additional \$78 million, a 15 percent increase over last year, to increase childhood immunization rates and eradicate polio worldwide.

✓ **Controlling the Spread of Infectious Disease.** The budget provides \$265 million to the Center for Disease Control, a 34 percent increase, for infectious disease programs and disease surveillance systems.

✓ **Expanding Family Planning Services.** The President secured \$254 million in FY 2001 for family planning, a \$15 million (6 percent) increase. This initiative will allow family planning clinics to provide reproductive health services and clinical care to millions of underserved Americans, including testing and treatment for sexually-transmitted diseases, cancer screenings, and HIV prevention and counseling.

✓ **Keeping the Health Care Promise for Retired Coal Miners and Their Families.** The budget provides an additional \$97 million to help continue the retirement health care that the nation promised about 65,000 retired coal miners and their families.

ENVIRONMENT

President Clinton and Vice President Gore made significant strides for the environment in the fiscal year 2001 budget that proposed a record \$42.3 billion to protect our natural resources, communities and families – an 11 percent increase over last year. The final budget includes increased funding for protection of America's parks, forests, green spaces, coastal areas and wildlife. The budget will provide Americans with increased resources for wild fire management, clean water and energy security. At the same time, the President and Vice President fought back numerous, anti-environmental riders that would have traded hard-won environmental safeguards for short-term special interest gains.

✓ **Preserving America's Lands.** The President and Vice President, with bipartisan congressional support, won unprecedented dedicated funding for the conservation of America's land and coastal resources. Totalling \$12 billion over six years, this historic conservation funding level will more than triple the current funding for these programs by 2006. The bill creates a new "conservation spending" category – protected from being spent on any other programs – for federal, state and local needs, and for maintaining existing parks and other conservation and recreation needs.

✓ **Protecting the Environment.** The budget provides \$3.9 billion for the EPA operating program, a 9 percent increase, to strengthen the backbone of the nation's environmental protection efforts. In recent years, Congress's failure to fully fund the President's budget proposals has jeopardized the EPA's ability to protect public health and the environment. These resources will enable EPA to continue to provide American communities with cleaner air, cleaner water, and improved quality of life. In addition, President Clinton won more resources for "the environmental cop on the beat" to enforce environmental laws against pollution.

✓ **Promoting Clean Water.** The budget includes an 8 percent increase—to \$165 million—for President Clinton's Clean Water Action Plan. Forty percent of our nation's waters don't meet water quality standards. The EPA and the Departments of Agriculture, the Interior, and Commerce will implement the plan together, including monitoring activities, watershed improvements, and private forest stewardship, and reclaiming abandoned mine land. The budget includes a \$38 million increase for controlling non-point source pollution, the greatest remaining source of poor water quality, and a \$56 million increase to help states and tribes strengthen water quality control programs.

✓ **Fighting Global Warming.** The budget includes \$1.2 billion, a 13 percent increase, for President Clinton's Climate Change Technology Initiative. This initiative is the backbone of the national effort to reduce greenhouse gases, while creating jobs and saving consumers money. It supports the research, development, and deployment of solar and renewable energy technologies and energy-efficient products. It includes \$375 million for Department of Energy solar and renewable energy research (a 21 percent increase); \$626 million for energy efficiency research (an 8 percent increase); and \$123 million for EPA to promote energy efficiency (a 19 percent increase).

✓ **Restoring the Florida Everglades, a National Treasure.** This year's budget includes \$118 million for Army Corps of Engineers projects to restore wetlands and natural waterflows in this internationally important ecosystem. This project is an important step to implement the President's \$7.8 billion Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, which has unprecedented support from Congress, agricultural, community, business and environmental groups. The restoration of America's Everglades will help ensure a safe supply of water for Florida's cities and farming communities into the future.

✓ **Protecting the Global Environment:** The budget includes \$100 million, a 61 percent increase, for USAID's tropical forest and biodiversity conservation budget to protect key ecosystems around the under the President's Greening the Globe initiative. The budget also includes \$108 million, a 200 percent increase, in U.S. funding for the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the primary international fund for global environment priorities including biodiversity conservation, international waters, protection of the ozone layer and climate change.

WORKING FAMILIES

The President fought for important initiatives in his budget to help working families and ensure that all Americans can share in prosperity.

✓ **Protecting Workers.** The final budget includes \$1.2 billion to enforce federal safety, health, pensions, wages, and nondiscrimination practices. This \$102 million increase will support 1,500 inspections to ensure safe and healthy workplaces. In addition, it supports efforts to increase labor law compliance, including child labor, and to expand public education/outreach efforts related to workers' pensions.

✓ **Helping Hard-Pressed Working Families Meet Their Nutritional Needs.** Congress approved an important reform proposed by the Administration to allow 245,000 people to own a reliable car and still be eligible for food stamp assistance. Many of these families need a car to get to jobs, job training, and child care. Another change also helps over 1.5 million people put food on the table by ensuring that the food stamp program more accurately recognizes high housing costs faced by many low-income working families.

✓ **Helping Former Welfare Recipients and other Low-Income Workers Get to their Jobs.** Congress provided guaranteed funding of \$100 million for the Job Access and Reverse Commute program, a critical component of the Administration's effort to move families from welfare to work and support working families. This is an increase of \$25 million over the FY 2000 level, but less than the \$150 million requested by the Administration. Regrettably, Congress earmarked 75 percent of the funds and failed to allow Native American tribes to apply directly for Job Access grants.

✓ **Expanding Nutrition and Health Care for Women and Young Children.** The final budget provides \$4.05 billion for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), an increase of \$20 million over FY 2000. The budget will provide vouchers for nutritional food packages, nutrition education and counseling, and health care and immunization referrals to more than 7 million women, infants, and children each month.

✓ **Creating 79,000 New Housing Vouchers.** With the Administration's leadership, the budget includes \$453 million for new vouchers that subsidize the rents of low-income Americans. These vouchers will expand the supply of affordable housing for the 5.4 million very-low-income families who pay more than half their incomes for housing or live in severely inadequate units, including a growing number of families working full time. Vouchers often enable families to move closer to job opportunities. This budget builds on the 110,000 new vouchers secured through the President's leadership in the past two years.

✓ **Increasing Voucher Use and Tenant Housing Options.** The budget helps Public Housing Authorities use some housing vouchers to expand tenant rental opportunities. For the first time, tenants moving into housing that has a designated voucher will not have to give up their rental assistance if their family needs to move.

✓ **Expanding the Home Investment Partnership.** The budget provides \$1.8 billion for the Home Investment Partnership Program, a \$200 million increase, to build, buy, and renovate

affordable housing for low-income families. The program also supports housing vouchers and homeownership counseling. These funds will create homeownership opportunities and affordable housing for an estimated 67,000 families in the next year.

✓ **Funding to States for Critical Local Needs.** Congress approved \$1.7 billion for the Social Services Block Grant which plays a critical role in funding child welfare and child protection services, as well as services to the elderly, disabled, and child care for children of hard-pressed working families.

✓ **Extending Welfare-To-Work Funding.** To help more long-term welfare recipients and low-income fathers go to work and support their families, the Administration proposed and Congress approved giving state, local, tribal, and community- and faith-based grantees an additional two years to spend existing Welfare-to-Work funds. This will give grantees an opportunity to fully implement the \$3 billion Welfare-to-Work initiative the Administration fought to include in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, as well as the program eligibility improvements enacted last year with the Administration's support.

✓ **Promoting Employment Opportunities for Americans with Disabilities.** The budget includes \$23 million to establish a new Office of Disability Policy, Evaluation and Technical Assistance (ODPET), headed by a new Assistant Secretary at the Department of Labor, to take the lead on policy development, technical assistance, research and public education on disability employment. The budget also includes \$20 million to continue the Work Incentive Assistance Grants program to ensure that people with disabilities who want to return to work have access to the full range of employment and reemployment services under the Workforce Investment Act.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

The United States is currently in the midst of the longest expansion in its history. The strength and duration of this expansion have helped bring economic opportunity to millions of people once cut off from the economic mainstream. However, too many urban and rural areas have not participated in this growth. Moreover, the President believes that parents who work hard and play by the rules should not have to raise their children in poverty.

✓ **Enacting the New Markets Initiative.** President Clinton and Congress have worked together on this bipartisan initiative to stimulate new private capital investments in economically distressed communities and build a network of private investment institutions to funnel credit, equity and technical assistance to businesses in America's new markets. Together, these initiatives expand the range of "bankable" deals and will stimulate additional private business activity. The agreement includes:

- **The New Markets Tax Credit.** The credit will spur \$15 billion in equity investment for business growth in low- and moderate-income rural and urban communities throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. The credit, worth over 30 percent of the amount invested (in present value terms), will be available to taxpayers who invest in a wide range of privately managed community development investment funds, such as community development banks and other CDFIs, venture funds, and new investment companies, that finance businesses in low- and moderate-income communities.

- **New Markets Venture Capital (NMVC) Firms.** The legislation provides for venture capital firms that would target smaller businesses located in low- and moderate-income communities. NMVC firms will provide expert guidance to small business entrepreneurs in inner city and rural areas. The legislation authorizes guarantees for \$150 million in loans that will match \$100 million in private equity, and provides \$30 million for technical assistance for small business.

- **Strengthened Empowerment Zones.** President Clinton and Vice President Gore established nine EZs in 1993. Today, there are 31 across America. This legislation provides:

- A third round of 9 new EZs, bringing the total number to 40, and extends all EZs to 2009.
- An additional \$110 million, for a total of \$200 million in discretionary investment this year for existing EZs.

- Expansion of 20% EZ wage credit (first \$15,000 in annual wages for each worker), increased small business expensing (up to \$35,000 more than in current law for equipment), and enhanced tax-exempt bonds to all EZs.

- Tax-free rollovers for EZ investments, and 60% capital gains exclusion for investment in small EZ businesses.

- **Renewal Communities.** The tax incentives for the 40 new Renewal Communities include:

- Zero capital gains rate on the sales of certain assets held for more than 5 years.
- Increased small business expensing (up to \$35,000 more than in current law for equipment).

- 15% employment wage credit (first \$10,000 in annual income for each worker).

- Commercial revitalization deductions for taxpayers who revitalize buildings in a Renewal Community.

- **An Expanded Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.** This bill increases the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit by more than 40 percent over two years and then indexes the credit for inflation thereafter. The increase will help to create an additional 180,000 units of affordable housing for working families over the next five years. The credit will increase to \$1.50 per capita for each state in 2001 and \$1.75 per capita in 2002.
- **A Higher Private Activity Bond Cap.** The legislation increases the state private activity bond cap from \$50 per resident to \$75 per resident, phased in 2001 to 2002.
- **Bolstered District of Columbia Tax Incentives.** The bill provides Washington, DC priority in receiving status under the Renewal Community program. In addition, the agreement also extends the District's current tax incentives, which are set to expire in 2002, to 2003.
- **Local BusinessLINC Coalitions.** BusinessLINC (Learning, Investment, Networking and Collaboration), is an innovative public-private partnership launched by Vice President Gore to encourage large businesses to work with and mentor small businesses located in distressed communities. This bill provides \$7 million for BusinessLINC local coalitions forming across the country.

✓ **Helping Low-Income Families Invest for the Future.** Congress approved the President's budget request of \$25 million to create Individual Development Accounts to empower low-income working families to save for a first home, postsecondary education, or to start a new business. Congress also approved the Administration's proposed changes that make it simpler and easier for community-based organizations and individuals to participate in this national demonstration program. This builds on President Clinton's longstanding support for empowering individuals to save through IDAs.

✓ **Developing the Mississippi Delta Region.** The budget funds a new federal-state partnership to fight for economic growth in the Mississippi Delta region, a seven-State area which includes some of the most distressed communities in the nation, including:

- **\$20 million for the Delta Regional Authority,** a federal-state partnership. Resources will be focused on the more than two million people living in the Delta's distressed areas. These areas have a poverty rate that is over 30 percent, twice the national average. The funding will support area development and technical assistance to participating State and local economic development entities.
- **\$6 million to improve rural economic opportunity** by allowing the Department of Agriculture to fund activities such as financing loans to intermediary borrowers who re-lend funds to rural businesses and community development corporations; and
- **\$226 million to improve the transportation infrastructure in the Delta region** through Department of Transportation transit and highway projects.

✓ **Makes Capital Available through Community Development Financial Institutions.** The President won \$118 million for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund. The Fund has a record of supporting local specialized lenders and investors—as well as traditional financial institutions—that make loans and equity investments in under-served communities. It is a vital source of capital to build a national network of community development lenders, following through on one of the President's original commitments. The Administration is especially pleased that Congress provided the requested \$5 million for technical assistance and training to benefit Native American communities.

✓ **Creating Economic Opportunity in Distressed Communities.** The budget provides over \$5 billion—a \$324 million increase—for the Community Development Block Grant to improve housing, strengthen public works, promote economic development, and acquire or clear land.

✓ **Offers More Emergency Food and Shelter.** The budget includes President Clinton's request to increase funding for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's grants by \$30 million, to \$140 million. These grants go to the states and are distributed locally to community based organizations to assist families and individuals who need emergency housing and food. As a result of this law, needy Americans will receive 25 million more meals and 1.1 million additional nights of shelter next year.

✓ **Increases Homeless Assistance.** The President and Vice President proposed a major expansion of HUD's continuum of care program to help homeless persons obtain temporary and permanent housing and supportive services. The final budget includes \$1.125 billion in funds for the homeless assistance including \$100 million for Shelter Plus Care renewals, a 10 percent increase over last year's budget.

✓ **Promoting Community Service.** The final budget includes more than \$767 million for national and community service, a \$36 million increase. It will allow AmeriCorps to surpass 250,000 members who have served their communities since 1994, helping to close the digital divide, improve education, build public housing, and meet critical social and environmental needs. It will also allow hundreds more National Civilian Community Corps members to continue to provide desperately needed help for communities faced with ravaging fires or devastating floods. The bill includes \$7.5 million for America's Promise—the community service initiative led by General Colin Powell that stemmed from the Presidents' Summit for America's Future—to ensure that children grow into healthy, strong, and productive adults.

FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to use this technology effectively are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, social and political life. Unfortunately, there is strong evidence of a "digital divide"—unequal access to technology by income, education level, race, and geography. We also need to give people skills to use technology and to promote content and applications of technology that will help empower under-served communities.

- ✓ **Establishing Community Technology Centers.** \$65 million to create up to 650 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural communities, up from \$10 million two years ago and doubling the \$32.5 million last year. This initiative will help close the "digital divide" by providing computers and Information Age tools to children and adults who can not afford them at home.
- ✓ **Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology.** The final budget includes \$125 million to train new teachers to use technology effectively in the classroom, up from \$75 million last year. Under the leadership of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, the United States has made enormous progress in connecting schools to the Internet and increasing the number of modern computers in the classroom. However, access to computers and the Internet will not help students achieve high academic standards unless teachers are as comfortable with a computer as they are with a chalkboard.
- ✓ **Supporting Innovative Applications of Technology.** President Clinton's budget will increase the investment in the Department of Commerce's successful Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) to \$45.5 million—triple the current level of \$15 million. TOP funds innovative uses of technology to assist in the delivery of health care and public health services, help public safety officials, increase low-income families' access to computers and the Internet, support lifelong learning, and strengthen local communities by fostering communication and collaboration through electronic networks.
- ✓ **Creating Digital Opportunity for Americans with Disabilities.** The budget provides \$142 million for R&D and support for programs to make information and communications technologies more accessible for people with disabilities, and to make assistive technologies more affordable.
- ✓ **Giving all of our Children Access to Educational Technology.** The budget provides a total of \$872 million for educational technology, including \$450 million for the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund. Under Clinton-Gore, spending on educational technology is up from \$23 million in FY93, an increase of over 3,600%. These programs help local communities meet the "four pillars" of the President's Educational Technology Initiative: Internet access, modem computers, educational content, and teacher training.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For the seventh straight year, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have requested, and negotiated, increases in Federal funding for fundamental research. Increased investment in science and technology leads to economic growth, the creation of high-tech, high-wage jobs, cures for diseases, and a cleaner environment for future generations of Americans. The 21st Century Research Fund consists of the Federal government's long-term investments directed toward creating new knowledge and developing new technologies. In FY 2001, these investments will total \$44.9 billion, an increase of nearly \$5 billion (12 percent) over last year.

- ✓ **Investing in Health Research.** This year, the National Institutes of Health will receive \$20.3 billion, an increase of \$2.5 billion (14 percent) over last year to broaden research on diseases such as diabetes, cancer, and brain disorders, and disease prevention strategies and vaccines. NIH resources have doubled in the Clinton Administration from \$10.3 billion in FY 1993.
- ✓ **Sustains U.S. Leadership across the Scientific Frontiers.** The budget contains a \$529 million increase for the National Science Foundation—the largest increase ever—for a total investment of \$4.4 billion. It boosts university-based research and insure balanced support for all science and engineering disciplines. Increased investments will spur new discoveries in the fields of information technology, nanotechnology, biocomplexity, and other areas of fundamental science and engineering.
- ✓ **Information Technology.** The budget includes a \$424 million increase for information technology to \$2 billion. The information technology industry accounts for a third of our economic growth and also creates high-tech, high-wage jobs.
- ✓ **Nanotechnology.** The budget increases resources for nanotechnology research by \$151 million to \$422 million. Nanotechnology—the manipulation of matter at the atomic and molecular level—could lead to breakthroughs such as the ability to store the equivalent of the Library of Congress in a device the size of a sugar cube, materials 10 times stronger than steel and a fraction of the weight, and the ability to detect tumors when they are only a few cells in size.
- ✓ **Core Research Areas.** The budget also provides a \$189 million (or 7 percent) increase for fundamental mathematics, functional genomics, physics, chemistry, geology, psychology, and cognitive and linguistic sciences to help sustain the flow of new discoveries and promote the emergence of new disciplines, fields, and technologies. These priority areas hold great promise for breakthroughs that are revolutionary, likely reshaping science and engineering, and changing the way we think and live.
- ✓ **Investing in Energy Research.** As part of the Clinton-Gore plan to reduce our nation's reliance on oil and lower the nation's fuel bills, the budget includes increases for the Department of Energy's domestic energy research and development programs: a \$65 million increase for solar and renewable energy; \$49 million (8 percent) for energy efficiency (including \$13 million for hybrid vehicle or "supercar" research); and \$111 million (27 percent) increase for fossil energy. It also includes a \$20 million increase at the Environmental Protection Agency for

energy efficiency research and development. These initiatives will help our nation achieve greater energy security, reduce pollution, and create new high-tech industries and jobs. The budget also boosts basic research in the Department of Energy's Office of Science by \$399 million, or 14 percent.

- ✓ **Expanding the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.** The final budget includes a \$684 million increase, to \$14.3 billion, for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. These resources will help NASA meet its human space flight needs more safely and at lower cost through a new generation of space launch vehicles and enable it to establish a sustained human presence in earth orbit and a robotic presence on Mars.
- ✓ **Investing in Advanced Technology.** President Clinton won continued funding for the Advanced Technology Program, which the House Republican budget proposed to eliminate. This year, ATP will make an additional \$61 million in new awards. ATP supports the development of risky technologies with significant promise for widespread economic benefits.
- ✓ **Encouraging Innovation through Patents and Trademarks.** The budget increases funding for the Patent and Trademark Office by 19 percent over last year, to over \$1 billion. These resources will allow the office to accommodate its surging workload and issue patents and trademarks without delays, encouraging investment and innovation, particularly in industries that are key to sustaining the economic expansion like biotechnology and the Internet.

SAFE COMMUNITIES

Under the Clinton-Gore Administration, crime has fallen to its lowest rate in a generation. The final budget proposes a series of measures to continue to make progress toward the goal of making America the safest big country in the world.

- ✓ **Enforcing Gun Laws.** The final budget contains nearly \$200 million to fund the President's Gun Enforcement Initiative—the largest national gun enforcement initiative in history. This will fund 500 new ATF firearms agents and inspectors, expand crime gun tracing and ballistics testing; and support over 600 new federal, state and local gun prosecutors to crack down on gun criminals. This funding will also help the ATF expand the President's successful Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative (YCGII), which helps law enforcement crack down on the illegal gun traffickers that supply firearms to juveniles and criminals, from 38 to 50 cities.
- ✓ **Putting More Police on the Streets.** Last year, President Clinton and Vice President Gore met their commitment to fund 100,000 new police officers for our streets ahead of schedule and under budget. As called for by the President, the final budget contains over \$1 billion to help communities take the next step and hire up to 50,000 more police officers by FY 2005; the budget also provides other critical resources for law enforcement.
- ✓ **Hiring More Community Prosecutors.** The budget includes \$25 million for the Administration's initiative to extend the success of community policing to local prosecutors by helping states and localities hire new community prosecutors to address public safety and quality of life issues.
- ✓ **Fighting against Domestic Violence.** The President and Vice President have championed reauthorization of the historic Violence Against Women Act, which the President recently signed. The President won \$504 million in FY 2001 to combat domestic violence—\$289 at the Department of Justice and \$215 at the Department of Health and Human Services. These funds will help communities to expand prevention efforts and enhance the safety of more victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- ✓ **Saving Lives by Preventing Drunk Driving.** Congress has also reached agreement on a critical measure to help set a nationwide impaired driving standard of .08 blood alcohol content. This common-sense nationwide limit will save an estimated 500 lives a year and prevent thousands of injuries.
- ✓ **Developing Smart Gun Technology.** To help prevent accidental gun death and injuries of children who obtain access to guns, as well as other unauthorized gun use, the Administration won \$8 million to expand the development of "smart" gun technologies. These state-of-the-art gun safety technologies can limit a gun's use to its proper adult owner or other authorized users.
- ✓ **Investing in Law Enforcement Technology.** The final budget provides \$270 million within COPS to provide law enforcement with the latest crime-fighting and crime-solving technology.

- ✓ **Strengthening Police Integrity and Fighting Hate Crimes.** The budget provides \$17 million to help strengthen police integrity including hate crimes training for Federal, state, and local law enforcement, data collection on “racial profiling,” and other innovative initiatives to build trust between police and communities and promote police accountability.
- ✓ **Increasing Community Supervision of Released Offenders.** The budget contains a total of \$30 million for Project Reentry, an innovative Administration initiative to create "reentry partnerships" and "reentry courts" to help communities reduce recidivism for offenders returning to their communities from prison. This will complement \$75 million for Responsible Reintegration for Young Offenders grants and \$10 million in substance abuse and mental health services grants targeted towards reentry initiatives.
- ✓ **Continue the Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign.** The Administration secured \$185 million to continue the successful national media campaign to regularly reach our youth with the message that drugs are wrong, dangerous and deadly.

AMERICA'S ARMED FORCES AND LEADERSHIP IN THE WORLD

At the start of a new century, the United States is faced with new opportunities and new challenges as a global leader and the world's strongest force for peace and prosperity. American leadership has been instrumental in seizing new opportunities for peace, including reversing ethnic cleansing and restoring stability to the Balkans; ending bloodshed in Northern Ireland; brokering peace in the Middle East between Israel and its neighbors; restoring democracy in East Timor; supporting Russia's transformation to democracy and free markets; and integrating China into the international community. U.S. leadership has also been decisive in meeting new challenges and combating new threats such as weapons proliferation, terrorism, and drug-trafficking.

The FY 2001 budget builds upon past success to advance America's leadership position in the world, funding a number of new initiatives designed seize the new opportunities and face the new challenges the 21st century presents.

✓ **Meeting our International Obligations.** Foreign Operations funding enables the United States to fulfill its international responsibilities—bolstering security for us and our allies, alleviating poverty and disease, promoting democracy and expanding markets for exports. Congress initially provided nearly \$2 billion less than the President requested for Foreign Operations. In the end, Congress will provide \$14.9 billion, only about \$200 million below our request.

✓ **Providing Debt Relief.** President Clinton won \$435 million for the Heavily Indebted Poor Country debt initiative. Under the Cologne Debt Initiative, countries receiving debt relief will direct their savings to education, health care, AIDS prevention, and other critical needs. The budget also includes \$13 million for the Tropical Forest Initiative to use debt relief funds in support of conservation and authorizes the use of proceeds from IMF gold sales for debt reduction. Unsustainable debt keeps many countries in poverty. For the average HIPC country, the share of scarce government revenue devoted to debt service could fall by 25 percent to 50 percent if they comply with their obligation to pursue economic reforms and promote poverty reduction.

✓ **Fighting AIDS and Funding Vaccines.** President Clinton won \$554 million to combat HIV/AIDS and \$125 million for other infectious diseases that plague the developing world. The budget also funds the President's Millennium Vaccine Initiative, including \$50 million for the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, over \$270 million for AIDS vaccine research and malaria and TB vaccine research. The AIDS vaccine research program is part of the Administration's overall AIDS research effort, which will receive an unprecedented level of support in this budget—over \$2 billion.

✓ **Fighting Child Labor and Expanding Education in Developing Countries.** President Clinton won a \$37 million increase to strengthen educational systems in areas of developing countries, especially where abusive child labor is prevalent. Better access to basic education can be a catalyst for poverty reduction, maternal and infant health, the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, and the elimination of abusive child labor. The budget also includes \$10 million to enforce custom laws against child labor customs enforcement and

\$45 million for the International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor. Since 1995, the U.S. has funded projects to prevent or remove some 120,500 children in Africa, Asia and Latin America from dangerous or abusive work in many industries (including commercial agriculture, mining, fishing, the production of soccer balls, carpets, garments, fireworks, and footwear), as well as prostitution and domestic service.

✓ **Migration and Refugee Assistance Account.** This \$700 million provides emergency food shelter and repatriation assistance to refugees overseas and allows refugee resettlement in the United States. This is significant because it is even more than we requested and will make a huge difference in our ability to provide essential assistance and protection to a worldwide refugee population that has increased by over half a million in the last six months.

✓ **International Family Planning.** The budget provides \$425 million—a significant increase from last year's level of \$373 million—will promotes women's health and saves women's lives. However, funds for these programs may not be obligated until February 15th, 2001.

✓ **Maintaining a Strong and Capable Military.** Last year, President Clinton and Vice President Gore initiated a long-term, sustained increase in defense spending to protect our high level of military readiness and procure modern and effective weapons systems. This year's budget includes:

- **More Resources.** The FY 2001 budget will pay for the Department of Defense's most critical needs, consistent with the President's budget request. The appropriation for the Department of Defense provides \$296.4 billion in discretionary budget authority, a \$15.8 billion increase over the FY 2000 level (excluding supplemental appropriations for defense programs in FY 2000, such as contingency operations).

- **Military Readiness.** The FY 2001 budget fully funds key compensation initiatives, including the Administration's requests for a 3.7 percent pay increase for military personnel, training, spare parts, equipment maintenance, and base operations. It also fully funds a new pharmacy benefit for military retirees over the age of 65, ensuring that those who dedicated their lives to military service benefit from comprehensive prescription drug coverage.

- **Modernized Weapons Systems.** The bill fully funds key modernization programs such as the F-22 fighter aircraft, the CVN-77 Nuclear Aircraft Carrier, and National Missile Defense. America's armed forces must maintain their status as the best-equipped in the world.

✓ **Keeping the Peace.** Our ability to pay our share of international peacekeeping missions is a crucial part of fulfilling our international security responsibilities and ensuring that other nations share the burden with us. The budget provides our full request of \$835 million for CIPA (Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities).

✓ **Reducing the Threat of Weapons of Mass Destruction.** The budget provides \$870 million for the Expanded Threat Reduction Initiative to contain the spread of weapons of mass destruction from the former Soviet Union and to promote stability.

✓ **Fighting Terrorism.** The bombing of the U.S.S. Cole reminds us of the increased threat of terrorism abroad. The \$1 billion for the Department of State embassy security initiatives is a

steadfast commitment to the security of our employees overseas, including full funding for security readiness measures, substantial increases for security improvements to existing facilities to deter and reduce the effects of attack, and a robust program of new construction to replace inadequate and vulnerable facilities. In addition, the budget includes \$205 million for new counter-terrorism and cyber-crime initiatives in the Departments of Treasury and Justice, including adding agents to Joint Terrorism Task Forces, enhancing technology and intelligence gathering along the northern border, enabling Treasury law enforcement to respond to unanticipated terrorist incidents, and improving the tracking of terrorist assets.

✓ **Promoting Cybersecurity.** The information technology revolution that has fueled the tremendous growth in our economy has also made us more vulnerable to cyber attack. The budget includes \$27 million to enable us to recruit and educate cyber experts, set up a team of experts to assist agencies in adhering to federal computer security requirements, develop a government-wide intrusion detection and response system, and run the Critical Infrastructure Assurance Office that coordinates with the private sector.

✓ **Promoting Democracy and Stability.** The budget includes \$250 million to bolster democracy in Kosovo and support the newly elected democratic government in Serbia. It provides \$421 million to promote the political and economic integration of the Balkans into Europe and into the global community and economy. Finally, it provides \$1.8 billion from the Economic Support Fund and \$3.4 billion from Foreign Military Financing to support the next phase of negotiations between Israel and its neighbors.

✓ **Colombia Assistance.** Congress provided \$1.3 billion in FY2000 emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance to Colombia, matching the funding level of the President's two-year request. These funds will support programs to stem the flow of illegal drugs coming from Colombia to the United States and to bring greater stability to Colombia and the Andean Region.

✓ **Meeting the Chemical Weapons Convention.** The budget meets U.S. obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention banning chemical weapons and monitoring the production of toxic chemicals, as well as protect confidential U.S. business information.

FARM SAFETY NET

Because the 1996 Farm Bill fails to sufficiently support farm family incomes when crop prices fall or natural disasters strike, President Clinton and Vice President Gore proposed counter-cyclical income assistance, crop insurance reform, a major farm conservation program initiative (much of which extends beyond 2002), and targeted assistance to certain segments of the farm and rural communities.

✓ **Helping farmers and ranchers recover from natural disasters and low prices for their commodities.** The budget includes over \$4 billion in assistance to farmers, ranchers, and rural residents who suffered losses from natural disasters, such as this summer's severe drought that impacted many parts of the country. This includes over \$2 billion to compensate crop producers for quantity and quality losses and over \$1 billion for livestock feed and dairy income assistance. In addition, the budget includes the President's proposal to extend the dairy price support program, providing further income support and security for dairy farmers.

✓ **Closing the "economic divide" in rural America.** The budget provides increases of \$2.2 billion for loans and grants for high-priority rural development programs which will improve the quality of life for rural residents, strengthen rural communities, and diversify the rural economy. More than 1.5 million more rural residents will receive access to safe, affordable drinking water through water and wastewater loans and grants; nearly 100,000 jobs will be created or saved through \$2.5 billion in guaranteed loans to rural businesses; and, over 60,000 very-low to moderate income rural families will receive single-family housing loans and loan guarantees, allowing many to own their own homes for the first time.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Other Clinton-Gore initiatives funded by the 2001 budget include:

✓ **Expanding Civil Rights Enforcement.** The President won nearly all of his requested increase for civil rights enforcement, bringing the total commitment to more than \$1 billion per year. Funding for the Civil Rights Division of Justice was expanded from \$82 million in FY 2000 to \$92 million in FY 2001, a 12 percent increase. Funding for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission increased from \$281 million to \$304 million in FY 2000, an eight percent increase.

✓ **Ensuring Equal Pay.** The President won \$42 million for his Equal Pay Initiative to train to employers on wage discrimination; train women in nontraditional jobs; provide for apprenticeships; and support industry partnerships. Within this initiative, the National Science Foundation (NSF) will invest \$20 million to remove barriers to career advancement for women scientists and engineers.

✓ **Meeting Our Commitment to the Nation's Veterans.** The budget provides a \$1.5 billion increase for the Department of Veterans Affairs, the largest increase ever requested by any Administration. These resources will improve benefits and services to the nation's 24 million veterans, serve more patients while ensuring high quality and timely care, improve the

delivery of benefit payments for veterans, and ensure that we meet our National Shrine commitment to cemeteries for veterans.

✓ **Promoting the Arts in America.** This year President Clinton proposed to expand resources for the National Endowment for the Arts to provide support for the important cultural, educational and artistic programs for communities across America. Working together, the President and the Congress were able to increase funding for the NEA to \$105 million, a \$7 million boost over last year's funding level and the first significant increase in the six years since the Republicans took control of the Congress.

✓ **Welcoming New Americans.** The President and Vice-President won \$70 million for the English Literacy/Civics Initiative—nearly triple last year's funding. This program helps states and communities provide recent immigrants and other individuals with limited English proficiency with expanded access to quality English-language instruction linked to civics education, including understanding the U.S. government and public education systems, the workplace, and other key institutions of American life. It is a powerful tool in building a stronger American community. Funding for this initiative in 2001 will provide services for almost 250,000 individuals.

✓ **Providing Fairness to Immigrant Families.** The budget changes immigration law to benefit an estimated 700,000 to 900,000 immigrants' families. It will provide limited relief by reinstating section 245(i) and creating a new V visa category to allow families to stay together in the United States while their application is pending and provides relief to some individuals who would have likely benefited from the legalization program under the immigration law of 1986. However, this legislation fails to eliminate the disparate treatment under our immigration laws Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Hondurans, Haitians, and Liberians and does not provide any relief for deserving individuals affected by changes in the 1996 immigration law. The next Congress should enact legislation to address these important issues.

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Draft 01/08/01 12:40pm
Heather Hurlburt

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS ON EDUCATION
JAMES WARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
CHICAGO, IL
January 9, 2001**

Acknowledgements: Thank you, Sharon Wilcher. One thing I've learned over 20 years of visiting schools is that you almost never have a good school without a great principal. And it looks like you've got one here. Mayor Daley; Secretary Riley. Members of Congress; Secretary Herman; Chicago Public School officials.

I'm in Chicago today because I want to thank the people of this city for the support you have given me and Hillary, and Al and Tipper Gore, all the way back to December 1991 when only my mother thought I could be elected President. And I've come to James Ward Elementary because I want people across America to know about schools like this where teachers and parents, administrators and community leaders are working together and succeeding – against considerable odds – in bringing educational excellence to all our children.

I want people to know this because our great national conversation about education reform is going to continue. We know what works. When schools and communities, and state and Federal government work together, great things are happening – here and all across America.

For years now, I've told everyone who would listen about the accomplishments of Chicago school reform. Mayor Daley and his administration have raised standards and accountability, and ended social promotion, but they did it the right way: by giving students and schools the tools they need to meet higher standards. Higher pay and better training for teachers and principals. After-school and summer school programs. And better-quality school buildings. The results are clear: in this huge, diverse school district, the test scores of 3rd-8th graders have risen every year since 1994.

Here at James Ward, you have doubled the percentage of kids reading at grade level since 1995 and ~~raised daily attendance rates~~ above 95 percent. With students arriving every year from China and Croatia and Central America, you've made your diversity a strength – and shown that the James Ward family has spirit and determination to spare.

What Chicago's story and your story tell us is that every child can learn. It is our responsibility as parents and teachers, in local and national government, to make sure every child gets the chance to learn.

Our Administration has worked hard for eight years to make education our number one priority. We told states to set academic standards for what children should know. Now almost every state has adopted standards. And we have doubled Federal investment in education – because we can only demand more from our schools if we invest more in them. And thanks to

We've achieved the largest expansion of college opportunity since the G.I. Bill more than 50 years ago. And the percentage of young people going to college is up 10 percent since 1993.

With all those steps, we've come a long way toward ensuring that every child comes to school ready to learn and graduates ready to succeed. I'm grateful that I've had the opportunity to make such important progress. But the lion's share of the credit belongs to people like you, who want the best for their children – and all America's children. People who believe, as I believe, that intelligence is equally distributed across the human race – and educational opportunity should be equally distributed also.

We're going to hear a lot more talk about education reform. But the debate is over: we know what works. Demand more from our schools, but keep investing more in them: rebuild schools, wire them for new technology, and train teachers to use that technology. Hire well-qualified teachers to keep class sizes low, and raise teacher salaries so that we can keep our best teachers. Set high standards, but do our part to help failing schools turn around.

Most of all, when we hear about any proposal for education reform, we should ask ourselves whether it will help a school like James Ward lift its children up, or whether it will hold those schools and their communities down.

We know every child can learn. And in this global information economy, every child must learn in order to succeed – and in order for our nation to succeed. Your school, as so many others I have visited over the past eight years, can teach us all a lesson – one that is vital for our common future.

Thank you very much.

the hard work of people like you, our investments are paying off. Across the country, test scores are rising – and some of the most impressive gains are coming in very poor neighborhoods.

We said that we would hold failing schools accountable, but do our share to help them turn around. This year, we have \$225 million available, the most ever, to help schools and communities fix schools that are in trouble.

Eight years ago, there was no Federal support for after-school programs. Now we support after-school programs like yours for 1.3 million children. More than half the students at James Ward participate in federal- and state-funded after-school programs – and I understand even more would stay if you had the transportation to get them home.

Eight years ago, only 35 percent of our schools were connected to the Internet. Today, with the help of the Vice President's E-rate program, 98 percent are – including James Ward. But we can't finish the job as long as many school buildings are simply too old to re-wire.

This school building is the oldest one in Illinois – built in 1874. Eight years ago, it was so run-down that paint peeled from the ceiling and students wore coats and gloves to class. In 1995, the city of Chicago found the resources to make it safe, warm and beautiful again. And what a difference that makes. But across the country, 3.5 million students attend schools that need extensive repair – or should just be replaced. We worked for four years to get Federal funds and tax credits to help communities modernize their schools. This year, we secured \$1.2 billion to help repair schools where the need is greatest. But there's much more we have to do – because we can't expect students to lift themselves up in schools that are falling down.

Eight years ago, we knew that children learn best in small classes. Today, we are well on the way to hiring 100,000 new teachers by 2005, and bringing class sizes down to 18 in the early grades. We've funded initiatives to help recruit good new teachers, retain the best teachers, and let every teacher keep learning on the job. I thank James Ward's teachers for your commitment to excellence – and Sharon Wilcher for seizing every chance for her staff to learn and grow.

Now, if every school were like James Ward, we wouldn't need charter schools. But in some communities, we do need ways to offer parents more choice – and troubled schools more competition. That's why I have been such a strong supporter of public charter schools. Eight years ago, there was one charter school in the whole country. Now there are more than ~~1,700~~^{5,000}. They are making public education better – not draining money away from it

Eight years ago, we said that we wanted America's schools to be places our kids felt safe. We've used Federal funds to help build partnerships between school districts and local police departments. And violent crime in our schools has fallen steadily since 1993.

More than ever, education is the key to our children's future. Eight years ago, the cost of college was skyrocketing. We've changed that, with the HOPE Scholarship tax credit, which is helping 10 million Americans pay for college; with more affordable student loans; with more Pell Grants and work-study slots. And we created the GEAR UP mentoring program, helping a quarter of a million middle school students prepare for college and find ways to pay for it.

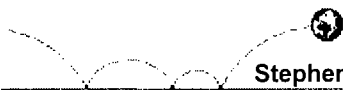


Anna Richter
12/15/2000 06:35:25 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc: Karin Kullman/OPD/EOP@EOP
Subject: STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT: BUDGET AGREEMENT

----- Forwarded by Anna Richter/OPD/EOP on 12/15/2000 06:35 PM -----



Stephen N. Boyd

12/15/2000 06:34:23 PM

Record Type: Record

To:
cc:
Subject: STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT: BUDGET AGREEMENT

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release
2000

December 15,

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased that Congress and I have reached agreement on a budget for the coming year. It is a budget that is fiscally responsible, pays down the debt, and makes vital investments in our nation's future. In education, health care and community renewal, this budget provides more opportunity for more Americans than ever before.

First and foremost, this budget tops eight years of commitment to education with dramatic new investment in our nation's schools. This includes an historic \$1.2 billion initiative to help renovate classrooms in thousands of school districts across the country. It includes the largest increases ever in funding for the Head Start program. It nearly doubles funding for after school programs – the largest increase ever. It increases by 25 percent funding to meet our goal of hiring 100,000 new, highly-qualified teachers to reduce class size in the early grades. It dramatically expands our GEAR UP and TRIO programs to prepare young people for college. It increases the maximum Pell Grant to an all-time-high of \$3750 – part of the biggest expansion of

college opportunity since the GI Bill. And it boosts accountability with more funding for teacher training and for turning around failing schools. With this budget, we have now increased funding for the Department of Education by 76 percent since 1993 – and targeted that funding to programs that work.

Second, in this budget, we're also passing our historic bipartisan new markets and community renewal initiative -- the most significant effort ever to help hard-pressed communities lift themselves up through private investment and entrepreneurship. With the help of our New Markets tax credit, 40 strengthened empowerment zones and 40 renewal communities, this initiative will spur billions of dollars in private investment, and ensure that every American will share in nation's economic prosperity.

Third, this budget reaffirms our longstanding commitment to expand access to quality health care for all Americans. It includes a multi-billion dollar effort to provide low-income children, seniors and people with disabilities, and those leaving welfare for work, with health care coverage. It expands preventive benefits like cancer and glaucoma screenings for Medicare beneficiaries. It ensures quality health care services for those beneficiaries by investing approximately \$30 billion in hospitals, home health agencies, hospices, nursing homes, and managed care plans. It will establish a new program to provide families caring for aging and ill relatives with essential support services, such as adult day care. It includes a new program to provide people with disabilities with community-based health care services. It increases funding for AIDS prevention, research, and treatment at home and abroad. It boosts support for graduate medical education at children's hospitals, and for food safety efforts. It includes new efforts to improve nursing home quality, and a down payment to eliminate racial health disparities. And it includes a historic \$20.3 billion investment in biomedical research, nearly doubling since 1993 our investment in the National Institutes of Health.

Finally, this budget will allow nearly 700,000 immigrants who have worked, lived, and paid taxes in America for years to stay in the United States legally without fear of being separated from their families.

Every year since 1993, I have worked with Congress to craft fiscally responsible budgets that are true to our values and that invest in the capacity of the American people to seize the new opportunities of the 21st Century. This year's budget does the same – by continuing to pay down the debt, and invest in education, research, health care and other priorities. I am confident that this budget will help keep our progress strong and our prosperity going in the years ahead.

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Message Sent To: _____



EMABARGOED UNTIL
December 2, 2000 at 10:06 a.m.

Contact: Alexander Wohl
(202) 401-3026

ALMOST \$8 BILLION INCREASE IN EDUCATION FUNDS AT RISK IF CONGRESS DOES NOT ACT

As Congress returns on Monday to finish the federal budget more than two months late, millions of schoolchildren across the country are still waiting for increases in education funding. The bipartisan agreement abandoned by the Republican leadership when they adjourned in November would increase federal education investment by almost \$8 billion.

"When Congress left town prior to Election Day, it left some very important unfinished business," said U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley. "When members come back to Washington they need to put politics aside and finish this piece of the nation's business by passing an education budget that includes the increases in the bipartisan agreement."

The budget agreement set aside by Republicans in Congress included new funding to reduce class size; to provide emergency repairs for run down schools; to increase after-school opportunities; to improve teacher quality; to help turn around low-performing schools, to strengthen support for children with disabilities, and to expand access to and funding for college. However, at the very last minute, the agreement did not receive the support of the congressional leadership. Failure by Congress to pass this bipartisan budget would demonstrate their willingness to put partisan politics ahead of America's children.

Almost \$8 billion in new funding for education is in jeopardy if the Congress fails to act on the FY2001 budget, including increases in a number of key areas, including:

Reducing Class Size with the third installment to hire and train 100,000 new teachers over seven years to reduce class sizes in early grades to 18 students per class: + 450,000,000

Upgrade Teacher Skills and Quality with Eisenhower Professional Development State Grants that help teachers improve their skills in core academic subjects and reduce the number of uncertified and out-of-field teachers: + \$250,000,000

Improve Reading and Math by increasing Title I Grants to local education agencies which help disadvantaged students learn the basics and achieve high standards: + \$639,000,000

School Renovation Grants would provide support for emergency repairs, such as repair of roofs, plumbing and electrical systems, meeting fire and safety codes: + \$1,000,000,000

21st Century After-School Programs offer families a safe place for their children to learn during after-school and summertime hours: + \$547,000,000

Strengthen Accountability by accelerating state and local efforts to improve the lowest performing Title I schools with reforms ranging from intensive teacher training to required implementation of proven reforms to school takeovers: + \$116,000,000

Comprehensive School Reform help schools develop or adapt comprehensive school reform models that are based on reliable research and effective practices: + \$40,000,000

Special Education Grants to States assist states in providing a free appropriate public education to more than 6.3 million children with disabilities nationally: + \$1,700,000,000

Pell Grants provide grant assistance to help low-income undergraduate students attend college: + \$1,400,000,000 (an increase of \$500 in the maximum Pell grant)

Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants provide grant assistance to low-income undergraduate students: + \$60,000,000

Federal Work-Study helps undergraduate and graduate students pay for college through part-time work assistance: + \$77,000,000

GEAR UP prepares low-income middle and high school students for college by providing tutoring, counseling, and financial aid: + \$125,000,000

“I hope that when Congress returns to work next week, it will move forward with this nearly \$8 billion increase and go one step further to pass school modernization tax legislation.” Riley said, “It would be incredibly irresponsible for Congress to adjourn yet again without addressing America’s priorities.”

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Education Q&A
Third International Mathematics and Science Study-Repeat (TIMSS-R)
December 5, 2000

Today, the National Center for Educational Statistics released the results of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study-Repeat, (TIMSS-R), which compares math and science scores for eighth graders from 38 participating nations. It is a follow-up on the TIMSS study conducted in 1995, which included 4th, 8th, and 12th grade students; this time around TIMSS only tested 8th graders. Additionally, the pool of participating countries did not include many Western European nations that had participated in 1995; in place of these, the 1999 pool included less-industrialized nations, such as Turkey, Thailand, Chile, Tunisia and Moldova. The results show that the raw average scores for U.S. eighth graders did not change. The Department of Education issued a press release saying that our students are learning more math and science – but that ‘we can do even better.’

Q: Today, the National Center on Education Statistics released data on TIMSS scores, comparing math and science scores for eighth graders in 38 countries, including the United States. Does the Administration have any comment?

A: The President and Vice President are pleased that the TIMSS report provides a glimpse of how our students compare to their international peers. The results show that U.S. eighth graders are above the international average in mathematics and science performance in all areas except for measurement, geometry, and physics, in which U.S. students performed at the international average. Additionally, the TIMSS indicates that African American students increased their math achievement from 1995-1999. However, we know that all of our students can do better. That is why this Administration has been seeking funding for programs we know to work, including measures to support teacher preparation and recruitment, professional development to upgrade the skills of our current teaching force, after-school programs, smaller class sizes, and GEAR UP to prepare more students for college.

Q: The report shows that the relative performance of U.S. eighth graders in math and science in 1999 was lower than it was for that cohort when they were fourth graders in the 1995 TIMSS. Is this evidence that the Administration’s policies aren’t working?

A: No. The tests are designed based on a composite of international curricula, and curriculum in the U.S. is not uniform since states and localities set curriculum. Furthermore, many of the Administration’s policies have not been in place long enough to impact the eighth graders who took the test last year; the class size reduction initiative has been targeted to the early grades, and the after-school programs are quite new too. In addition, the Glenn Commission, which was established specifically to look at how to improve math and science education, just recently released its set of recommendations – including improving the professional development and preparation of K-12 teachers, things for which this Administration has fought to secure increased funding. Finally, there are other measures that indicate that student achievement is improving – including

the fact that the SAT math scores are the highest they have been in 30 years, as the student body taking the SAT has become increasingly diverse.

Q: The report indicates that 8th grade math and science teachers in the U.S. are less likely to have a major or minor in math or science than their counterparts in other nations included in the TIMSS study. If this is true, why don't we change this?

A: It is true that U.S. eighth graders are more likely to be taught by math and science teachers with degrees in education – and less likely to be taught by teachers with math or science majors than many of their international peers. That is why this Administration has been fighting so hard with Congress to secure greater federal support for state initiatives which strengthen teacher preparation programs, offer mid-career professionals such as scientists and engineers alternative routes to teacher certification, and provide ongoing professional development. It is also why the Administration supported the strengthening of teacher preparation requirements included in the last set of Higher Education amendments.

September 202000

MEMORANDUM TO KARIN KULLMAN

FROM: David Lussier
Bethany Little
Caroline Chang
Kendra Brooks

SUBJECT: Upcoming Events/Deliverables to Highlight Education Priorities

Professional Development Tool Kits (Ready for Release) The Department of Education will unveil a tool kit comprising elements of award winning professional development models. These tool kits will be shipped to every school district in the country in an effort to provide schools with a structure to develop high-quality professional development opportunities for teachers. This event would be an opportunity to underscore the administration's \$1 billion teacher quality proposal.

21st Century Community Learning Centers Report (Ready for Release) This report recounts the success of after-school programs throughout the country and, in particular, calls attention to the number of quality applications the Dept. of Education receives that go unfunded because of a lack of money. In particular, the report highlights the positive effect that after-school programs have on juvenile crime, school discipline problems, school attendance, and overall student achievement. This report would give the administration a chance to respond the recent Urban Institute findings that focused on the large number of latch key children in the United States, and give us a chance to highlight our \$1 billion proposed investment.

Lights On for Afterschool Programs (October 12) This event will showcase successful afterschool programs around the country and bring attention to the need for more programs. There are currently 632 communities signed up to participate. The Afterschool Alliance would like the White House to promote this event. Some possibilities: Comments in a Saturday radio address, a White House release of the "Hero Within" PSA (See below), or a White House release of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Report.

Principal for a Day (Anytime). Apparently the President has expressed interest in a "Principal for a Day" event, however we are unaware of who issued the invitation or any other details. If there was interest, we could ask the Department to put together a brief piece on the principal shortage.

Publication on the Arts and the 21st Century Program (Ready for Release). This report is being coordinated with the National Endowment for the Arts, and will include examples of effective ways to integrate the arts into afterschool programs.

Additional Guidelines for Charter Schools (Ready for Release). Updated guidance to address participation of religious organizations and businesses to respond to Executive Memorandum from May 4.

Gun Free Schools Report (Ready for Release). The Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA) requires states to report information about the implementation of the act annually to the Secretary of Education, and the data for 1998-1999 school year will be ready for release in late August. In order to meet this requirement and to monitor compliance with the GFSA, the Department of Education (the Department) requires each state to submit an annual report that provides: 1) the number of students expelled (by type of firearm and school level); 2) the number of expulsions that were modified on a case-by-case basis; 3) the number of modified cases that were not for students with disabilities; and 4) the number of expelled students who were referred to an alternative school or program. The draft report is being reviewed by Bill Modzeleski, and should go into clearance by the end of this week. If we wanted to push for Small Schools money or Project SERV, this report might offer a good deliverable.

Teach For America (Anytime). There are several opportunities for the President to address Teach For America corps members or guest teach at a school in D.C. or another TFA site. Ideally the President could teach during "Teach For America Week" in October, which has attracted national press coverage and a variety of guest teachers, such as Henry Kissinger, Janet Reno, famous authors and actors. In addition, the President could address a regional site (there are 15 nationwide) at a time or location that works with his schedule.

Accountability Speech (Anytime). A major speech by the President could provide a legacy message, a budget message, and a big ideas message. He could start by talking about the importance of standards-based reform and accountability and argue that it is the only reform strategy that is showing results and the country needs to move forward on it. He could go on to say that although we have to make sure testing is appropriate and fair, we shouldn't abandon testing because that is how we hold schools accountable. We can fiddle with testing, but not the accountability agenda. Rather than "slowing down" the reform (like Riley's "mid-course review"), he could argue that we should be "speeding up" reform and get schools and students the resources they need to reach high standards – smaller classes, after-school, fixing failing schools, school construction, and teacher quality.

The President could also present some "vision for the future" type items to give this speech a hook and to add to the list of resources that kids need to meet high standards, i.e.:

- move to year round schooling. Message is to increase days in school so that we ensure that our kids and our country can compete in years to come. He could argue that school days are critical to helping children--especially poor and low-performing children --meet high standards. We could say that the U.S. should move towards a 220 school day year over the next 10 year to be on par with other educationally successful countries.
- making the school day 8-5. We've essentially campaigned for that with our after-school agenda but never in terms of outright lengthening the school day. In addition to student achievement, this would be a good after-school safety and supporting working families message.
- dramatically increasing public school options and making public school choice universal.

- offering universal preschool and early childhood support in terms of education needs, health needs, etc to make sure kids start school ready to learn.

DoD Schools (Anytime). DoD schools have their own teacher certification and qualification requirements, which seem to pre-empt our ESEA proposals. They also have some sort of accountability mechanisms, and an Executive Order directing them to implement our accountability provisions around identifying and fixing failing schools is unlikely to be effective since it seems that almost none would be considered “failing”. One option might be to have DoD do a report on their teacher quality programs including qualifications, professional development and their incentive awards program for teachers that includes cash awards, time off, and recognition. Another option might be a report on their class size reduction efforts (according to their annual report they have gotten some of the federal money). Also, a strength of the DoD schools appears to be greater uniformity in student achievement, that is, smaller achievement gaps between groups of students and between schools. DoD's African American and Hispanic students, in particular, score in the top few jurisdictions when looking at these subgroups in the 43 states and jurisdictions that participate in NAEP. Nonetheless, the achievement gap is still an area that they are very concerned about and have been trying to improve further. Apparently the Today Show has filmed a segment on the DoD schools, but it has not aired yet; also, the National Education Goals Panel recently contacted the DoD schools, and will be doing an analysis on their success with some results expected in December.

Arts in Education Grants (September 15). This program supports student competency in the arts, a core academic subject as defined by the National Education Goals, by encouraging the integration of arts education into elementary and secondary school curricula. The plan is to award 10 grants at \$1,000,000 by September 15.

Smaller Learning Communities Program Grants (September 25). This program provides competitive grants to local educational agencies to plan, develop, implement or expand smaller, more personal learning communities in large high schools and funds can be used to: restructure schools, enhance professional development, build partnerships, solicit technical assistance, build data collection and evaluation systems, and provide extended learning time and support services for students. The Conference Report provides none of the requested \$120 million. The first award of planning and implementation grants to reduce the size of large high schools grants include 200 awards at \$10,000,000. Secretary Riley and members of Congress have an event planned for 9/25 but this could be held for the President.

The National Commission on Mathematics and Science Teaching for the 21st Century's Report (September 27) This year-long Commission was established by Secretary Riley in July, 1999 to address the need to improve student achievement in math and science. John Glenn is the chair of the Commission and this report will detail the conclusions of their study and provide a recommended strategy to the Secretary on how to raise the quality of math and science instruction in all levels of education. The report is being released in a press conference at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum.

After School PSA Release (By September 30). This new public service announcement from the Afterschool Alliance and the Ad Council is focused on starting after-school programs in local communities around the country. Interested parties call 1-800-USA-LEARN to receive an Afterschool Action Kit and other information. Danny DeVito and Rhea Perlman have expressed interest in returning to the White House to publicize this PSA and serve as champions of the Afterschool Alliance.

Low-Performing Schools Report (September/October). This report (in response to the President's Executive Order in May) will provide information on the numbers of low-performing schools, and on efforts to turn them around. There is some feeling that we can handle the number (probably around 10,000 failing schools) by including other chapters on what is working to turn around failing schools, what the state trends are in identifying and addressing failing schools, and what the federal government is doing to help turn around failing schools. In addition to our Accountability Fund, the latter includes the Department's conference on using federal money effectively, a plan for a bilateral arrangement with Great Britain around what works in fixing failing schools, and a project the Department is putting together that would network 14 "leading states" with each other and with federal folks to share information, research, best practices, etc. on fixing failing schools.

Teachers' Intentions to Stay in Charter Schools (Early October). This report explains the characteristics of charter schools that lead teachers to want to stay employed there, which is a good proxy for what will help all schools retain good teachers and succeed. This report is more of interest to operators, but it says charter schools should have a clear mission, keep their school focused on it, and give teachers authority. If those pieces are in place, teachers want to stay, even if the school has start-up problems. If they don't have the first three things in place, the start-up obstacles get to be overwhelming.

Charter Schools Impact (Early October). This report is in final clearance and should go to print in the next week. The study found that 50 percent of districts made positive changes when charters open in their districts, and that the amount and extent of change increases as districts feel more competition.

Safe and Drug Free Schools Annual Report (October) The Department of Education's 2000 Annual Report on School Safety (produced in conjunction with the Department of Justice) should be ready for release in mid-October.

Charter Schools Accountability Study (Late October) This report is based on case studies of states, districts and universities granting charters. The study found that states and universities did a slightly better job of holding schools accountable. It will demonstrate some shortcomings of accountability, but also describes the steps being taken to ensure accountability in charter schools. The study was funded by the Department and undertaken by Paul Hill and a team at the University of Washington. This muddies the message a bit with charter schools, but could give us an accountability hit.

Awards for Effective Teacher Preparation Programs (Early November) This is the first time the Dept. of Education has issued these awards to exemplary colleges and universities for their work in preparing new teachers. This event would be another opportunity to highlight the administration's efforts to improve teacher quality through better teacher preparation programs.

Charter Schools and Student Achievement (November). This document evaluates student achievement of students in charter schools based on assessments in case study schools (eventually 22 schools out of 100 in the sample), with comparative data from similar students in the national data set. The report uses a complicated methodology, and is currently awaiting an "adjudication panel" from peer reviewers, who disagreed on the nature of the conclusions to be drawn from this study. Mostly they have to decide how strongly they need to stress the caveats in what is otherwise a sign of positive increases in student achievement for students in charter schools.

American Education week (November 12-18) This year's theme is *Children, Teachers, Parents-Helping Students to Achieve*. This would be a good week to release new reports, focus on the administration's accomplishments and perhaps convene some strategy sessions on issues here at DPC.

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (Late November) NBPTS will be releasing the list of newly certified teachers who completed the process during the 1999-2000 certification cycle. A record 9,506 teachers sought Board Certification this year. There are currently 4,804 Board Certified teachers in the United States.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: DISAPPOINTED THAT CONGRESS LEAVES TOWN WITH UNFINISHED BUSINESS FOR AMERICA

November 1, 2000

Today, as Congress adjourns until after the election, President Clinton will express his disappointment that Congress has chosen to leave town without finishing its work. He will emphasize his continuing commitment to be ready to work on key priorities for America's people whenever Congress returns. Over the past month, President Clinton has signed 11 **(OMB pls check)** continuing resolutions to extend Congress's budget deadline. Nonetheless, Congress has been unwilling or unable to finish its work. Just this week, it retreated from an agreement on the education budget it still has not completed six of the 13 budget bills. When Republicans have worked with the Administration and congressional Democrats, we have made progress. Together we have passed bills for veterans, housing, agriculture, transportation, and foreign operations; permanent normal trade relations with China; the Older Americans Act; the Ryan White CARE Act, and other important legislation.

CONGRESS HAS LEFT UNFINISHED BUSINESS BEHIND. Despite bipartisan agreement on many important issues, Congress has not finished a budget or acted on other important priorities for the American people. Today, Congress is leaving without having acted on legislation to:

- **AGREE ON AN EDUCATION BUDGET THAT INVESTS MORE IN AND DEMAND MORE FROM AMERICA'S SCHOOLS.** Earlier this week, the Clinton-Gore Administration had reached consensus with Republican members of the appropriations and education committees on a landmark education budget that included a \$7.5 billion increase for our schools, the most ever. However, Congress backed away from that agreement when special interests objected to an unrelated provision regarding workplace repetitive stress injuries. If important education initiatives continue to be funded by continuing resolutions, rather than by the bipartisan agreement renounced by the Republican leadership, then:
 - × Nearly 650,000 children will be denied smaller classes;
 - × School districts will not receive \$1 billion to make urgently needed repairs to school facilities;
 - × About 850,000 children will be denied after-school learning opportunities;
 - × Nearly 15,000 school districts will not receive \$250 million to improve teacher quality, denying participation to as many as 1.2 million teachers;
 - × Over 2,300 low-performing schools would not get \$116 million in Eisenhower State Grants to improve their students' achievement;
 - × About 600,000 disadvantaged students would be unable to participate in the GEAR UP college preparation initiative; and
 - × Nearly 4 million needy college students would receive smaller Pell grant scholarships because the maximum award will not increase from \$3,300 to \$3,800.
- **REACH COMMON GROUND ON TAX CUTS FOR MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES.** President Clinton has repeatedly called for bipartisan negotiations on tax legislation. Last week, the President proposed a compromise package that reflected the priorities of both parties. Nonetheless, Congress moved forward with a bill that ignores key priorities for America and is now leaving town before finishing its work. As a result, the following pieces of legislation are unresolved:
 - × **Expand Health Care Coverage and Ease the Burden of Long-Term Care.** The President proposed a \$3,000 tax credit to ease the burden on people with long-term care needs or the families who care for them. This tax credit would provide immediate assistance to those burdened by these long-term care costs today. The President's proposal would also include the Republican proposal to provide an enhanced deduction for the purchase of private long-term care insurance provided there are appropriate consumer protections and the bipartisan credit for vaccine research and purchases. Finally, it would create the FamilyCare plan to expand affordable insurance to over 4 million parents, building on the successful Children's Health Insurance Program and include a tax credit for the purchase of private health insurance, based on the Republican proposal for a tax deduction.
 - × **Build and Modernize 6,000 Schools.** President Clinton has urged Congress to pass the Nancy Johnson-Charles Rangel legislation to create \$25 billion in school modernization bonds. That bill has 231 sponsors, a bipartisan majority of the House of Representatives. House leaders have consistently prevented a vote on Representatives Johnson and Rangel's effort to add school modernization bonds to the Education Savings and School Excellence

Act (H.R. 7). President Clinton has also urged Congress to pass legislation for tribal bonds to fund construction of schools serving Native Americans.

- × **New Markets and Renewal Communities.** Congress has yet to enact the bipartisan agreement between the President and Speaker Hastert that would spur business investment in our nation's economically distressed urban and rural communities. During this time of unparalleled prosperity, we should make sure that no community is left behind.
- **RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE.** In his 1998 State of the Union Address, the President called for raising the minimum wage by \$1 over two years to help more than 10 million workers make ends meet. At time when we are experiencing the longest economic expansion in history, the proposed \$1 increase would return the real value of the minimum wage to the level it was in 1982. Full-time workers would receive an annual raise of about \$2,000 a year, enough to pay for nearly seven months of groceries or five months of rent. So far, Republican delay on this legislation has cost minimum wage workers over \$1,000.
 - Over the opposition of Republican leaders, the House passed a \$1 increase in the minimum wage by a 282-143 vote on March 9, 2000, with 78 Republicans supporting the measure.
 - In the Senate, a clean measure to increase the minimum wage over two years had the support of four Republicans, but failed in a close vote on November 9, 1999. So far, Senate Republican leaders have refused reasonable compromises that would allow the minimum wage to pass.
- **PROVIDE AN AFFORDABLE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT OPTION FOR ALL MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES.** Three out of five Medicare beneficiaries have inadequate or no prescription drug coverage. In the context of broader reform that ensures that Medicare revenues are only used for Medicare, the President has proposed a voluntary, affordable, Medicare prescription drug benefit for all beneficiaries. *(DPC could we pls have another sentence)*
- **PASS A MEANINGFUL PATIENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS.** A bipartisan majority in both houses of Congress supports a strong, enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights, similar to the bipartisan Norwood-Dingell plan that passed the House overwhelmingly by a vote of 275-151 over a year ago. However, the Senate Republican leadership continues to support an alternative that leaves over 135 million people without protections and doesn't assure that plans are held accountable when they make decisions that harm patients.
 - On October 7, 1999, a bipartisan coalition led by Reps. Charlie Norwood (R-GA) and John Dingell (D-MI) and including 68 Republicans won passage of the Patients Bill of Rights Act in the House.
 - On July 15, 1999, the Senate passed weaker legislation that covered only one-third as many Americans in HMOs. It rejected a stronger version on June 8, 2000, despite the support of four Republican senators. With the addition of Democratic Senator Zell Miller from Georgia, a majority of both the House and Senate now supports the Dingell-Norwood plan.
 - More than a year after the House passed its bill, the conference committee has still not delivered strong bipartisan legislation. Speaker Hastert originally appointed conferees who opposed the bill and delayed conference committee action until this year.
- **ENACT COMMON-SENSE GUN SAFETY PROTECTIONS.** Congress must act to save more lives by passing sensible gun safety measures to: close the gun show loophole; require child safety locks for handguns; ban the importation of large capacity ammunition clips; and bar violent juveniles from owning guns for life. *(DPC could we pls have another sentence)*
- **PASS HATE CRIMES LEGISLATION.** There is no justification for failing to pass hate crimes legislation this year, which would enhance the Federal government's ability to prosecute violent crimes motivated by race, color, religion, or national origin and would authorize Federal prosecution of crimes motivated by sexual orientation, gender, or disability. There have been strong bipartisan votes in both the House and Senate on expanded hate crime legislation:
 - On June 20, 2000, the Senate added hate crimes legislation to the Department of Defense authorization bill by a 57-42 vote, with the support of 13 Republicans.
 - On September 13, 2000, the House voted to retain hate crimes in that bill, 232-192 with 41 Republicans.
 - However, Republican leaders stripped hate crimes before sending the Defense bill to the President.

- **REFORM THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE SYSTEM.** This year, the Congress failed once again to adopt comprehensive, meaningful reform of our campaign finance system. In July, the President signed modest but important reporting requirements to stop interest groups from using special “527” tax-exempt status to hide their political spending, and he called on Congress to continue working in a bipartisan fashion to pass comprehensive campaign finance reform. Unfortunately, Congressional leaders failed to take the next step. The American people want meaningful campaign finance reform, and the Congress should not stand in their way.
 - On September 10, 1999, the House passed the bipartisan Shays-Meehan reform plan with the support of 54 Republicans.
 - The Senate version of that bill has six Republican sponsors, including Senator John McCain. A majority of the Senate supports it, but the leadership has prevented a clean vote. The Senate has not debated the bill in over a year.
- **EXPAND HEALTH COVERAGE TO VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.** Despite broad bipartisan support, the Republican leadership continues to reject new health insurance coverage options for populations such as children with disabilities, Americans moving from welfare to work, and pregnant women and children who are legal immigrants. The Family Opportunity Act, which already has 77 co-sponsors in the Senate, would provide a new Medicaid buy-in option for children with disabilities who would otherwise lose their Medicaid coverage because their parents lose eligibility when they go back to work. The welfare to work, legal immigrant, and children’s enrollment provisions have unanimously passed the House Commerce Committee.
- **COMPLETE ITS WORK ON NATIONAL SERVICE.** In July, the Senate health, education, labor and pensions committee passed a bipartisan national service reauthorization bill, the Jeffords-Kennedy National and Community Service Amendments Act of 2000. Forty-nine of the 50 governors wrote the Republican leadership to urge them to pass the reauthorization of AmeriCorps and other critical national service programs this year. General Colin Powell has continually advocated for Congress to reauthorize this critical bill that provides opportunities for young people to serve their communities. However, the Republican leadership not brought the bill to a vote thus refusing to reaffirm and strengthen our nation’s commitment to national service and build on the far-reaching benefits of the national service program.
- **INSIST ON FAIRNESS FOR IMMIGRANTS.** The President is committed to fairness for immigrants who have been in this country for years, working hard and paying taxes, by enacting legislation addressing injustices under our immigration laws and restoring critical nutrition assistance and health benefits for legal immigrants. Despite bipartisan support for these proposals, the Republican leadership proposal simply does not go far enough to address these injustices and does nothing to restore critical benefits for legal immigrants.
- **PROTECT CIVIL RIGHTS AND WORK FOR EQUAL PAY.** President Clinton requested a 13 percent increase to improve civil rights enforcement, bringing the federal commitment to more than \$1 billion per year. This initiative provides resources for stepped-up civil rights enforcement, education and outreach at the Departments of Justice, Education, Health and Human Services, Labor, and Housing and Urban Development. The House has cut \$136 million from the President's request, while the Senate cut \$108 million. Congress has also failed to fund \$10 million for the President's Equal Pay Initiative at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to fight wage discrimination and provide training to employers on equal pay requirements. *(DPC pls update)*