

Social Security Act

Pres. sign - 8/14/35

H - 4/19/35

S - 6/19/35

no recorded votes for passage of either
Conference report

Older Amer. Act

pres. sign. July 14, 1965

H - March 31, 1965

S - May 27, 1965

Senate conf. agreed to by voice vote of the
House July 6, 1965

Medicare

pres. sign July 30, 1965 - 5:19 pm - Truman Library

H - April 8, 1965

• Independence,
Missouri

S - July 9, 1965

conference
report July 28, 1965

July 1, 1966 - 1st person rec'd
benefit from prog
- Truman rec'd 1st Medicare
Card

SCHEDULING REQUEST

Date: 6/30/95

☐ ACCEPT	☐ REGRET	☐ PENDING
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TO: Billy Webster
Director of Scheduling and Advance

FROM: Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

Alexis Herman
Assistant to the President for Public Liaison

REQUEST: A stop by for the President at a local seniors event recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Older Americans Act.

PURPOSE: Seniors are a critical base group for this Administration. The President's brief participation in this event would demonstrate his commitment to the seniors community and the Older Americans Act programs -- programs which are very important to and popular with the seniors community.

BACKGROUND: The Older Americans Act, signed by President Johnson on July 14, 1965, authorizes funding and services aimed at helping seniors remain independent -- e.g. nutrition, transportation, and in-home care for the frail elderly. The programs are administered by a large and politically important "aging network" -- including 57 state units on aging, 657 area agencies on aging, and 5000 senior centers. HHS celebrated the anniversary during May.

DATE AND TIME: July 14; stop by on way to/from Langley, VA

DURATION: Forty-five minutes

LOCATION: Senior center, senior employment or nutrition programs are possibilities; depending on time, could eat lunch at senior center

PARTICIPANTS: Real older Americans; representatives from the aging network and key senior groups.

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: TBD

REMARKS REQUIRED: Talking points

MEDIA COVERAGE: Pool coverage and senior specialty press

VICE PRESIDENT'S
ATTENDANCE: No

RECOMMENDED BY: Carol Rasco, Alexis Herman

ORIGIN OF THIS REQUEST: White House Staff generated

CONTACT: Jeremy Ben-Ami
x65584

Marilyn Yager
x66683

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

20 June 1995

**MEMORANDUM FOR: LEON PANETTA
HAROLD ICKES
ERSKINE BOWLES**

CC: Mark Gearan
Pat Griffin
Doug Sosnik

FROM: Alexis Herman *HA*
Kitty Higgins *KH*
Carol Rasco *CR*

RE: Follow up to WHCoA/Seniors Strategy

We write to outline a potential strategy for working with the seniors community. This outreach will be vital in the next year, and the coming months provide good opportunities to build on the goodwill and communication established during the White House Conference on Aging and meetings on Republican Medicare cuts. This outreach obviously takes on a little different flavor, but no less importance, given the recent budget announcement.

This strategy includes:

- Developing senior message in coordination with ongoing budget activities;
- Establishing a group and process to develop and monitor strategy (our offices as the core);
- Identifying events for Administration participation, including the President, other principals, and Cabinet officials --

The Anniversaries of Medicare (7/30), Social Security (8/14), and the Older Americans Act (7/14) are first priorities. We have begun meeting with relevant offices to develop a POTUS event for the Anniversary of Medicare;

- Sending Presidential letters to events in which the Administration cannot participate; and
- Through expanded mailing list at OPL, maintaining close communication with friends in the seniors community.

Attached is a calendar of key opportunities for outreach in ³four areas: 1) Anniversaries of the Social Security Act, Medicare, and the Older Americans Act; 2) Official follow-up events to the White House Conference on Aging; and 3) Other Activities, including AoA and Summer Conferences.

We would appreciate your assistance in highlighting select events and any input you might have.

6/20/95

CALENDAR OF SENIORS DATES/EVENTS

1. Dates of Notable Anniversaries

- *30th Anniversary of the Older Americans Act, July 14, 1965*

-HHS celebrated during month of May; is open to additional recognition if requested.

- *30th Anniversary of Medicare, July 30, 1965*

-HCFA is focusing on July 1996, the 30th Anniversary of the first receipt of benefits, for the major public commemoration. Throughout this year, they will hold events leading up to the Anniversary:

1) In early September, HCFA will dedicate a new "Single Site" building (a consolidation of 11 HCFA buildings into one); all past HCFA Administrators have said they will attend; HCFA is considering inviting the VP.

2) At the end of 1995, HCFA will begin a mailing of 37 million "Medicare Handbooks," the standard guide to Medicare that will be supplemented with Anniversary messages highlighting the importance of this key government program.

3) In the spring of 1996, HCFA will hold a conference/event (possibly at LBJ school in Austin) to review Medicare through the eyes of past Administrators and others involved in its development.

- *60th Anniversary of Social Security Act, August 14, 1935*

-The Social Security Administration is considering a ceremony at the National Archives (houses plaque to FDR and currently, site of historical exhibit on Social Security); they would like to invite the President and VP to participate. Another possibility is an event at Hyde Park, NY, home of FDR.

-At the same time, there will be a nationwide (60 sites across country) distribution of Personal Earnings and Benefits Statements (PEBES), tentatively to be hosted by Sen. Moynihan (and perhaps Packwood).

-SSA would like these events to highlight the intergenerational nature of Social Security, as well as its past longevity and our commitment to its future.

2. White House Conference on Aging. The 1995 White House Conference on Aging includes post Conference events designed to develop implementation steps for the resolutions identified at the Conference. The outcomes of these follow up events and the resolutions passed at the Conference will be synthesized into a final report -- a comprehensive aging policy -- that will be submitted to the President by the end of 1995 (preceded by interim reports to Governors in August with opportunity for them to comment).

Some of these follow up events provide good opportunities for Administration participation. In addition, some groups are open to suggestions on planning post-Conference events. Listed below are select sites.

- June 23, El Monte, CA, Jack Crippen Senior Center: Health Promotion and Wellness (Rep. Martinez hosting)
- June 27-29, 1995, Scottsdale, Arizona, Southwest Cluster Conference for Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Project Directors
- June 28-July 2, 1995, Washington, D.C., American Nurses Association House of Delegates Meeting
- June 28-July 2, Williamsburg, VA, NANASP Survival Summit (about 500 nutrition project directors from across the country)
- July 11-13, 1995, Marina Del Rey, CA, Pacific Cluster Conference for Grandparent and Senior Companion Program Project Directors
- August 2-3, 1995, Chicago, IL, North Central Cluster Conference for National Senior Service Corps Project Directors
- August 21-23, Dallas, TX, Central States Coalition on Aging Annual Conference *-dead news time*
- September 12, Rome, NY, Support for Caregivers
- September 15, 1995, Riverside, CA, Riverside County Office on Aging
- September 22, San Jose, CA, Action Strategies for Housing, Transportation and Long term care
- October, Rockland County, NY, Preserving the Integrity of the OAA, Social Security and Medicare
- October 2, Pontiac, Michigan, Oakland County Senior Power Day
- October 17, Rochester, NY, Aging Policy, Intergenerational Issues and NY State
- October 30-Nov. 1, 1995, Columbia, Missouri, Annual Governor's Conference on Aging

3. Other Activities, including AoA events and summer conferences

- The Older Americans Act (OAA) is scheduled for reauthorization this summer. Pending OMB approval, HHS has a bill ready to go to the Hill. HHS is tentatively scheduled to testify June 28.
- June 22, National Conference on Aging and Disabilities, Minot, ND.
- June 29, National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs Survival Summit, Williamsburg, VA.
- June 30, Administration on Aging and HUD will jointly announce examples of "best practices" in public and assisted housing developments that serve elderly and disabled residents.
- July 22, National Association of Counties 60th Annual Conference, Fulton County, GA. ✓
- July 22-27, Los Angeles, CA, National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A -- the umbrella organization for the 670 Area Agencies on Aging nationwide) Annual Conference. Vice President Gore has been invited. ✓
- [FYI: July 26-27, Next meeting of the Social Security Advisory Council.]
- September 5, National Association of Meals Programs, Reno, NV.
- September 11, "National Grandparents Day," recognizing importance of intergenerational dependence and the increased role of grandparents in primary caregiving.
- 1st week of October, Vermont, AARP

Seniors Events/Anniversaries
Planning Meeting
June 20, 3:00 pm

Agenda Items

1. Message

- Coordination with budget strategy
- Meeting with outside groups?
- Coordination with WHCoA message?

Admin: 1) continuing grass roots process - here to hear your thoughts
- most ppl have participated
2) Pol message

Bob: holding events on issues →
implementation - but really
advocacy
- chance to lay out difts
between R's to Admin
- partly Medicaid -
we're not block-
granting

2. Anniversaries

- July 14, 30-Year Anniversary of Older Americans Act
- natural consistency - important issues out what
- reports are going to do
- July 30, 30-Year Anniversary of Medicare (5:19 pm, Truman library, Independence, MO)
- August 14, 60-Year Anniversary of Social Security

- invite gps in
- go to Conf

? Cabinet → wide

- Agency plans?
- Hill/Congressional plans? → DPC - event in Independence
HHS L'ship
- Outside Group plans?
- Partisan/Nonpartisan
- Linkage with WHCoA follow up events?

- diff. messages

3. WHCoA Followup/Other Seniors Events

- Administration/Cabinet participation?

Kathy
Mark
Doug
Pat
Gene

If Budget amplification plan, this should
be part

1-pgr to Erskine

6/20/95

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- Rangel → sched's request from Leg Affairs

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BUDGET

Cont'd from previous page

...nated messages otherwise chaotic and divided Democrats have used against Republicans. And although evidence was limited, there were signs Republicans were reluctant to enter a rigorous debate over reducing Medicare.

—In fact, less than a third of the 221 House Republicans followed leadership orders to conduct town meetings during the Memorial Day recess on planned Medicare reductions. GOP leaders had even prepared an exhaustive promotional kit for them to use.

—Until Mr. Clinton's speech, Democrats appeared willing to attack Republicans over Medicare and wait to see if they would waffle or fold under the pressure. A long summer of pitched political battle was anticipated by both sides, and Republican leaders privately admitted they were not sure their tanks would hold.

—Now, suddenly, Mr. Clinton has authorized Medicare reductions half as large as the Republicans', retaining support for tax cuts and favors balancing the budget by 2005. These new positions make the distinctions between the parties much harder to discern and largely reduce the political battle to a long and numbing debate over numbers.

—The president has shifted the focus, said Rep. Bob Wise, West Virginia Democrat. "For 90 percent of the Democrats who are anxious it's about the lack of communication. We don't mind being kept out of the party, we'd just like to see an invitation."

—I don't know if it's necessary for him to produce that new budget," said Rep. John P. Murtha, Pennsylvania Democrat. "It undercuts people who have been attacking Medicare."

—To many Democrats, it seems the White House has caved in to much of the GOP agenda, leaving them to shred and swallow two months' worth of speeches assailing Republican budget plans.

—...I was decrying reductions in Medicare to pay for tax cuts as my leadership told me," Mr. Stark said. "Yesterday I was leading the charge. Now I'm dismayed for believing it."

—Mr. Clinton yesterday described Democratic reaction as "sort of decidedly mixed" and objected to their desire for a longer spell of confrontation with Republicans.

—"I'm sympathetic with the



Major White House figures appear on Capitol Hill yesterday, the day after President Clinton put forth his plan for balancing the federal budget. At the table (from left) are Sen. Bob Dole, Rep. Newt Gingrich, Rep. John Kasich, Sen. Pete Domenici, White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta and Budget Director Alice Rivlin.

COMPARING PLANS

Highlights of President Clinton's plan to balance the budget in 10 years and Republican plans to do it in seven years. Dollar amounts are in billions.

	Clinton	House	Senate
Years to balance budget	10	7	7
Tax cuts	\$111	\$354	\$170
Medicare savings	\$127	\$283	\$256
Medicaid savings	\$54	\$184	\$175
Departments eliminated	0	3	1
Programs eliminated—	Dozens	284	100+
Interest savings on national debt	\$172	\$158	\$155

The Washington Times

Democratic position" that argued against offering the plan, Mr. Clinton said. "The Democratic position is the Republicans won the Congress by just saying no ... and therefore we should just say no—at least for a much longer time."

"But I don't believe that's the appropriate position for the president. ... And I don't believe it's right for the Democrats to kind of overreact to the last election."

Republicans could not be more delighted by the turn of events, and their jubilation rippled through their own private meeting yesterday morning.

Republican National Chairman Haley Barbour briefed lawmakers on recent polling by Linda DiVall

showing that one-third of those questioned are willing to accept Medicare reforms and that nearly 70 percent are now aware that Medicare is due to become insolvent into bankruptcy in 2002.

In March, Miss DiVall's polling showed virtually no knowledge of Medicare's shaky status and revealed deep-seated reluctance to discuss any reforms or reductions in benefits. Republicans are astonished at the rapid swing in public reaction and are now more encouraged than ever about the political viability of their approach.

"Clinton has basically admitted what we've been saying for a couple of years," said Rep. John R. Kasich, Ohio Republican and

chairman of the Budget Committee. "I feel no pressure to move in their direction. We should hear what he has to say."

Some Republicans see delicious parallels between Mr. Clinton's shift on Medicare and President Bush's abandonment of his "no new taxes" pledge.

Only weeks ago the president and his aides said Medicare could be reduced only in the context of a larger national health insurance plan. Now Mr. Clinton has abandoned that demand.

And just as seasoned House Republicans believe Mr. Bush's willingness to raise taxes neutralized their "tax and spend" attacks on Democrats, they are equally sure Mr. Clinton's new position shields them from the equally potent Democratic charge they are trying to "balance the budget on the backs of the elderly."

"We've been waiting to be heat up by the Democrats," said Rep. Dan Miller, Florida Republican and co-leader of a GOP task force on the Medicare message. "I thought this was going to be a battle. Now we're emboldened."

Republicans are feeling so chipper they are seriously discussing conducting a nationally televised town meeting on July 30 to mark the 30th anniversary of Medicare's enactment.

Wash. Times; 6-15-95

GOP leaders meet Panetta on budget

Gingrich faults Clinton 10-year plan

By Patricia Hall
THE WASHINGTON POST TIMES

Republican leaders yesterday met with White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta to discuss common ground in balancing the budget.

"There is real substance" in the 10-year blueprint unveiled Tuesday by President Clinton, said House Speaker Newt Gingrich. He noted that Mr. Clinton for the first time not only accepted the principle of balancing the budget by a certain date, but also endorsed cutting taxes, preserving defense and curbing Medicare and other domestic programs.

"It would be both irresponsible and irrational for us to reject that opportunity," the Georgia Republican said. "Maybe we can put together a Republican and moderate Democrat coalition with the president."

Mr. Gingrich predicted that Congress would adopt at least a couple of dozen "good ideas" in the president's budget and might find enough common ground to "make a couple of big policy decisions on a bipartisan basis."

However, he called Mr. Clinton's proposal to balance the budget in 10 years instead of seven, like the Republican plans, a "non-starter."

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole praised the president for his "statesmanship" in offering a budget that moves significantly toward the Republican plans.

"We can go to the next step" by launching budget discussions, the Kansas Republican said. "I think the president ought to be a player."

Also attending yesterday's meeting were Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete V. Domenici, New Mexico Republican; House Budget Committee Chairman John R. Kasich, Ohio Republican; and Alice Rivlin, director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Mr. Domenici emerged from the meeting saying the president's spending cuts appear far larger—and are much closer to the size of Republican spending cuts—when

"There's not a lot of common ground" between the president and Congress.
— Sen. Phil Gramm

congressional economic projections are used to show their impact over the next five to 10 years.

A Senate analysis shows the president proposed to curb Medicare's growth by \$192 billion in the next seven years, as compared with the Senate budget's \$256 billion and the House budget's \$287 billion.

Rather than grow by 10.4 percent a year, the president's budget would allow Medicare to grow by 7.8 percent, while the Senate budget would permit 7 percent growth and the House 5.5 percent growth.

Medicaid growth would be cut by \$122 billion over 7 years in the president's budget, compared with the Senate's \$175 billion and the House's \$187 billion.

While Mr. Clinton positioned himself well within negotiating range on these key points, he and Republicans remain far apart on how to achieve those savings, Mr. Domenici said.

"There are issues beyond the numbers ... with reference to the role of the government and more state, city and people control. These are policy issues where we may very well differ to the extent that we can't make ends meet," he said.

Mr. Panetta, like the Republican leaders, appeared anxious to reach an accord on critical budget issues, but others not at the meeting were more skeptical.

"There's not a lot of common ground" between the president and Congress, said Sen. Phil Gramm. The Texas Republican noted that Mr. Clinton's budget relies heavily on inflated estimates of the amount of money the government would save from lower interest on the national debt.

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1-800-972-3524

(Direct-to-Capitol Switchboard—Ask for your Member of Congress by name.)

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MEDICARE & MEDICAID CUTS



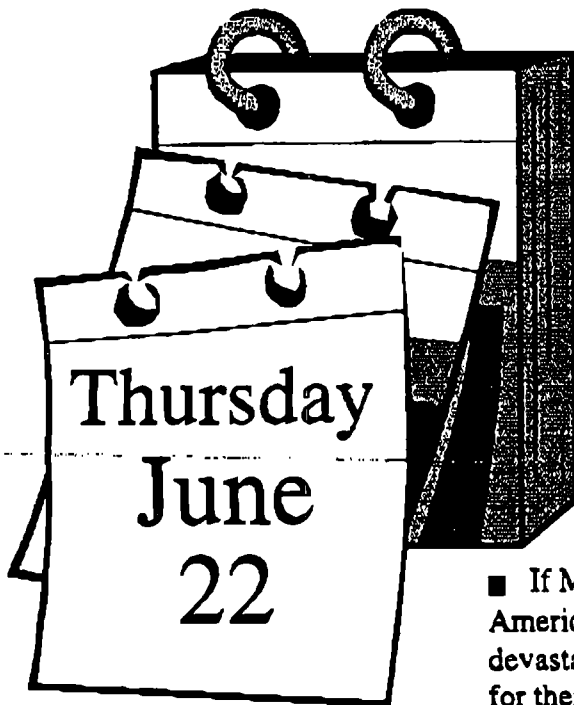
What to Say:

- Identify yourself. Tell him/her you are a constituent in his/her district. Mention the name of your organization and the number of members you represent.
- You are calling to voice your opposition to the huge cuts in Medicare and Medicaid contained in the budget;
- These cuts are the biggest ever in Medicare. Seniors already pay more out-of-pocket for their health care than any other group, and their health costs will skyrocket under this plan!
- If Medicaid is cut, as the budgeteers plan, millions of frail and disabled Americans and their families will be strained to the limit. Families will be devastated by the expense and the exhausting physical burden of providing for their loved ones' long-term care needs.

- Giving tax breaks to wealthier, privileged Americans will not solve the problems of our economy, especially when the elderly, disabled and our youngsters will suffer.

Urge your U.S. Representative and both of your Senators to stand up for our country's most vulnerable citizens. Tell him/her to **VOTE AGAINST** the budget cuts in Medicare and Medicaid in the budget resolution.

Prepared by the National Council of Senior Citizens



EVENTS

Older Americans Month Activities

- May 2 Kickoff Event for Older Americans Month with Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter. Keynote Address: Liz Carpenter, former press secretary to Lady Bird Johnson.
- May 4 Older Americans Month Photo Exhibit and Opening Reception
- May 10 Older Americans Month Congressional Reception will honor the Close Up Foundation with an award recognizing their work to improve the lives of seniors through their "Program for Older Americans."
- May 11 Commissioners Symposium - a roundtable forum about national aging policy of the past, present and future featuring former Commissioners of Aging as panelists.
- May 23 Older Americans Month Media RoundTable

Other Calendar Activities

- May 19 1995 Senior Olympics Closing Ceremony, San Antonio, TX
- June 22 National Conference on Aging and Disabilities, Minot, ND
Contact: 701-224-2310.
- June 29 National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs Survival Summit, Williamsburg, VA. Contact: 800-999-8262.
- July 21 National Association of Counties 60th Annual Conference
Fulton County, GA. Contact: 202-942-4220.
- July 22 National Association of Area Agencies on Aging National Conference. Contact: 202-296-8130.
- Sept 5 National Association of Meals Programs, Reno, NV.
Contact: 415-920-1111.
- Sept 11 National Grandparents Day-Presidential Proclamation 4679 of Sept 6, 1979.
- Sept 19 National Elder Abuse Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
Contact: 508-793-6166.

For more information, contact Michele Puccinelli at 401-4545.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

The next issue will feature a tribute to past AoA Commissioners. It will afford an opportunity to reflect on the last 30 years of the Older Americans Act and to look forward to the next 30 years with the insights of their collective wisdom.



SOCIAL SECURITY

Office of the Commissioner

June 16, 1995

To: LeeAnn Inadomi
Cabinet Affairs
The White House

From: Brian Coyne
Chief of Staff 
Social Security Administration

Subject: 60th Anniversary of Social Security

On Monday, August 14, Social Security will celebrate its 60th anniversary. In the six decades since Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act, Social Security has grown to become the most successful government program in our nation's history. Today, the agency provides Social Security coverage to more than 140 million American workers and pays Social Security retirement, disability and survivors benefits to more than 42 million Americans each month.

To commemorate the anniversary, Social Security will be distributing Personal Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statement (PEBES) request forms at 60 locations throughout the country. The PEBES provide individuals with estimates of how much they can expect to receive from Social Security upon retirement or in the event that they become disabled.

The forms will be distributed at six locations in each of our regional office cities - Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Kansas City, Dallas, Denver, Chicago, Seattle and San Francisco. Retired SSA employees will be handing out the forms and we have invited our constituency groups to participate as well. We also have asked the SSA Alumni Association to invite young people to participate in this initiative.

In addition to this national activity, we propose that the President participate in an event with Commissioner Chater, either in Washington or in one of the regional cities, on August 14. The purpose of the event would be to highlight the intergenerational aspect of Social Security and to speak positively about its past and its future.

One scenario which would be appropriate for the event would be an appearance at either a foster grandparent activity or a senior citizens center featuring student volunteers. This would allow us to focus on children as well as senior citizens. There are a number of such groups in the Washington D.C. area, as well as throughout the country.

Another scenario, which would involve children, middle-age Americans and senior citizens, would revolve around the issuance of Social Security cards. Social Security developed a new logo when it became an independent agency in March. In the next few weeks, the first Social Security cards with our new logo will be printed. The President could present the new cards to the first recipients at a ceremony. Since Social Security cards are available to Americans of all ages, this would be a good opportunity to highlight the intergenerational aspect of the program.

A third scenario, which is being proposed by Congressman Rangel, is to hold a ceremony in Hyde Park, N.Y., home of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

I believe that all of the scenarios would provide the President with an opportunity to focus on the positive and inter-generational aspects of Social Security and would allow him to reaffirm his commitment to the program. We would like to work with you to develop the ideas presented or to identify other alternatives. Joan Wainwright, Associate Commissioner for Communications at SSA, is available to work with you on the details of the event. You can contact her at (410) 965-1720.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

cc:
Molly Brostrom

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7 90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL		# of pages 2
To Molly Brostrom Dear Agency	From Brian Coyne Phone #	
Fax # 456-7028	Fax # 482-7105	
NSN 7540 01-317-7368 5049 101		GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Daria Wyckoff 6/29/90
⇒ Steve, Alexis

5/18

Agenda

1. Resolv

1. Official follow-up
2. Lists

Next mts -
post-Mem Day -
include Sosnick, Legisl.
⇒ Moya: HHS events
AARP: VT → 1st wk of Oct
Oct 5-6

Official Follow Up

(Aug. 3)

→ to Governors → 90 days of comment
w/in 90 days → Rpt on Resols / Impl Steps -
+ Coherent Nat'l Strategy

270 days < Policy Comm submits
Final rpt by end of yr

Feb. 17 → 2 wks after Pres
called Conf.

Post WHCot Events

Nat'l L'ship Council - planning strategic post-conf event
(40 org on ship) * HCBC LTC

→ seek Admin guidance on Medicaid, Housing, OAA
Marilyn: crime

Chris J: Focus on private LTC stds, etc.

Cale June → delegates back in town

⇒ Marilyn lists: 80 Pres'l debs
100 Comm Service
50 HHS
30 Adv Comm

Revised Labor
NCSC

HHS → Fast Track Reentry of OAA

* Bob Blumenthal - letter / speech - mailing

⇒ Early July - identify where to plug ppl - 4 principals
@ 1 of each?

● 250 credentialed press

Kitty, CR, Merit → to be Sosnik's office person

Srs Memo

→ need to work w/ community
Strategy

3-6 mo, Plan/Proposal/Stepped
for events (POTUS, etc)

- highlight events

Leon
Harold
Eskew

cc: Sosnik
Griffin
Gera

WHCoA

HHS →

Dates

Other

* call Bob

4 principals → 5th event before August

Memo

Re: Proposed Strategy for Srs Outreach in Coming Mos.

Outlined below are possibilities
for strategy for work w/ srs community in next 3-6
mos - both as follow-up to Conf on Aging & you'll work on
4 principals before August/early fall

list -
then suggest
event

1) Official follow-up of WHCoA

- rpt by end of yr - POTUS announcement 1 yr

2) HHS - Fast track OAA Reauth

- Reauth expires Sept 30

- bill with next w/c

(pending OMB approval)

- looking for a bipartisan

idea

- 6/13 1st hearing H Side

- no time to get to

summer confs

3) Noted 6 dates - OAA Annual

- AARP, etc

August → SocSec event

* NAAAA (NYA) - Annual Conf in CA
(670 AAAs) 7/23-27

NA State Units of Aging - June

- intys have been held w/
substantive Δ's
Ce.g. cost-sharing
up pots for. time & inc
→ some streamlining & simpl
- not focusing f.e

* call Fernando

* Marilyn

Republicans ready pitch to seniors on Medicaid package

House GOP sees major reforms as do-or-die issue

By Major Garrett
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

After years of avoiding the inevitable task of reducing exploding Medicare costs, House Republicans today will unleash an aggressive campaign to sell their reforms to a nation of skeptical seniors.

The 231 House Republicans received the same marching orders from senior GOP leaders before leaving Washington for this week's Memorial Day recess: Sell your seniors on Medicare reforms or we're all dead.

"Most of the members realize if they don't carry the message home they will jeopardize not only themselves, but all of us," said Rep. John A. Boehner of Ohio, chairman of the House Republican Conference. "This will cause a lot of people to look in the mirror and say, 'Do I have the courage or don't I?'"

Mr. Boehner is in charge of packaging the pitch Republicans will use on behalf of their unprecedented overhaul of Medicare. House Speaker Newt Gingrich has assigned Reps. Dan Miller of Florida, Jim McCrery of Louisiana and James C. Greenwood of Pennsylvania to monitor GOP salesman-

Inside

Welfare: Debate includes call for federal money to fund religious charities. **A6**

Hands off: Congress finds it easier to kill others' perks than its own. **A6**

On deck: Senate GOP Whip Trent Lott has his eye on Bob Dole's job. **A6**

ship effort on a day-to-day basis.

Mr. Boehner conducted a closed-door briefing last week on a 39-page kit designed to maximize positive media and constituent response to GOP plans to reduce projected Medicare benefits by more than \$282 billion. A follow-up briefing with all GOP press secretaries drove home the urgency of beating Democratic critics to the punch.

"Each and every House Republican must take the initiative and go on offense on the issue that the other side thinks is our most vulnerable — Medicare," advises the media kit obtained by The Washington Times.

"We must get to our senior centers, to our hospitals, to our editorial board rooms and to the living rooms of our districts," the kit implores. "If we get to them first with the facts, the lies the Democrats and their allies are spreading will not be as effective as they hope they will be."

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REFORM

From page A

All in all, the GOP media package seeks to startle seniors into believing that maintaining their benefits is more dangerous than having them reduced.

The GOP pitch emphasizes that Medicare will go bankrupt in 2002 and uses quotes and charts from the Clinton administration's trustees report to back them up. Republicans are urged to repeat words such as "protect," "preserve" and "improve" — all of which were gleaned from extensive focus-group research.

Most important, Republicans are reminded to repeat over and over again that even under the new

austerity program, projected Medicare benefits will rise by \$1,600 per person.

The media kit does not say that people who stay in Medicare will pay \$2,750 more per person over the next seven years for the same health care.

And it does not mention their plan reduces the yearly growth in spending from 10 percent to 5.8 percent from now until 2002. The average growth of private sector health care costs is expected to be nearly 8 percent, meaning fewer services for Medicare recipients.

Republicans believe the only way to sell the higher costs and reduced health care that their plans envision is to convince seniors that cuts are inevitable. Once that is done, Republicans hope they can convince seniors they are

the only party with a plan to preserve Medicare for future generations.

"We're arguing that, first of all, all you've have to do is hold up the trustees report of the Clinton administration trustees and point to the page where it says, 'This will go broke,'" Mr. Gingrich said. "And then turn cheerfully to your Democratic counterpart and say, 'What's your plan?'"

Democrats doubt it will work and are eager to confront Republicans on the propriety of reducing Medicare benefits at the same time taxes are being cut.

"This puts the details behind the bumper stickers," said Rep. Bob Wise, West Virginia Democrat. "You just can't cut these things and expect the problem to go away. We're being handed some things

and we're grateful for them."

Democrats have guarded Medicare ferociously since its creation in 1965 and have numerous grassroots allies to assist them, including the nation's most powerful lobbying organization — the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

House Republican leaders met with AARP representatives last week to discuss Medicare, but a truce was not reached and one is not anticipated.

The GOP media kit does not mention the "lies" Democrats are expected to use.

If all goes as planned, Republicans will soon attempt to hold "news" events in congressional districts nationwide, built around:

- Creation of a Medicare task force to discuss potential reforms,

preferably with a senior citizen as chairman. (The kit provides a pre-written press release, including a prepared quote from the new citizen chairman).

Freshman Rep. John Fox, Pennsylvania Republican, announced his task force last week to combat negative publicity about Medicare changes in a district — where 19 percent of his constituents are 62 or older. Mr. Fox won his race with less than 50 percent of the vote in 1994, and a groundswell against Medicare could easily topple him.

- Appointment of a congressional staffer to respond to all Medicare questions and complaints. (Another pre-written press release is included).

- Creation of a Medicare hot line that seniors can use to report

errors in their bills or fraudulent doctors.

The kit provides a script and urges the lawmaker to record a voice-mail message for the hot line. The script reads in part: "Your suggestions on how to combat Medicare fraud and how to improve the current system will be very useful as the Congress considers how to preserve and protect Medicare."

Members also are advised to hold a news conference on the hot line's creation, record public service announcements and purchase advertisements in local newspapers to promote it.

- Tour senior centers and conduct "fact-finding" tours of district hospitals of health maintenance organizations.

ADMINISTRATION ON AGING



F4+
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, September 6, 1994

Contact: Moya Benoit Thompson
202/401-4541

NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS DAY

Fernando M. Torres-Gil, assistant secretary for aging within the Department of Health and Human Services, joins the Nation in celebrating National Grandparents Day, September 11, 1994.

"This national day of celebration, created by Congress in 1979, is set aside to honor our Nation's grandparents and is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks to those valued family members who provide love, support and stability in the lives of so many of our children," said Torres-Gil. "It is important, however, that we recognize the value and lasting impact of the critical contributions grandparents make every day of the week."

There are approximately 60 million grandparents in the United States alone. By the beginning of the twenty-first century, the retirement of the baby boomers will cause that number to grow to more than 90 million. More than 3 million children in the United States currently live with their grandparents or other older relatives, and in at least a third of these homes, the grandmother is the sole caregiver.

"Older women, including grandmothers, play a critical role in the family continuum. They step in and fill important gaps for their great-grandchildren, grandchildren, children, spouses and sometimes even parents. It is impossible to measure the true value of the service these older women provide to our communities

by offering respite care, reducing institutionalization, and preventing family dissolution," said Torres-Gil. "The Administration on Aging plans to honor older women, some of whom are grandparents, at the unveiling of its Older Women's Initiative later this month."

Grandparents are a vital force in the shaping of the American family and in the furthering of family traditions. National Grandparents Day provides us with a way to show our appreciation.

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103D CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. J. RES. 198**

Designating 1995 the "Year of the Grandparent".

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 9 (legislative day, JUNE 7), 1994

Mr. PRYOR introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Designating 1995 the "Year of the Grandparent".

Whereas grandparents bring a tremendous amount of love and power for good into the lives of their grandchildren;

Whereas grandparents, in partnership with parents, help deepen every child's roots and strengthen every child's wings so that every child may soar into adulthood with a glad heart and a confident spirit;

Whereas grandparents are a strong and important voice in support of the happiness and well-being of children;

Whereas grandparents often serve as the primary caregivers for their grandchildren, providing a stable and supportive home environment;

Whereas grandparents should be acknowledged for the important role they play within families, and for the many and

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Whereas public awareness of and appreciation for the contributions of grandparents should be strengthened;

Whereas grandparents should be encouraged to continue as a vital force in the shaping of American families today and into the future;

Whereas the Nation acknowledges the contributions of grandparents by celebrating National Grandparents Day each September; and

Whereas there should be a year-long national celebration of grandparents and grandparenting: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That 1995 is designated the "Year of the Grandparent",
4 and the President is authorized and requested to issue a
5 proclamation calling on the people of the United States
6 to observe that year with appropriate programs, cere-
7 monies, and activities.

Passed the Senate August 12 (legislative day, August 11), 1994.

Attest:

MARTHA S. POPE,

Secretary.

DRAFT

DRAFT

Year of the Grandparent - 1995

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In the past few decades, the American family has undergone dramatic changes. Repeatedly, the American people have seen and felt the effects of a rising divorce rate, a declining birth rate, and increased mobility, on the family unit. At the same time, the population is aging - senior citizens are living longer, retiring earlier and enjoying more leisure time. Today, there are approximately 60 million grandparents in the United States and the impending retirement of the baby boom generation will cause that number to continue to grow. In spite of the changes in the American family, the presence of grandparents has become a more stabilizing force. The intergenerational relationships between grandparents and grandchildren have been allowed to develop more completely than in any other period of history.

Grandparents often serve a fundamental role as the foundation of their families by ensuring links to the past and hope for the future. They are responsible for preserving and enhancing family values and traditions. The critical influence of the family unit on the well-being and happiness of children is reinforced as grandparents provide an important source of love, support, guidance, and wisdom in the lives of their grandchildren. Today,

approximately 3.4 million children live in a household headed by their grandparent. The prevalence of multi-generational households has increased over 50 percent in the past 25 years.

Perhaps the most critical role that grandparents are being asked to serve in increasing numbers is that of primary caregiver for their grandchildren. According to a recently released AARP report, in 1993, there were more than 633,000 households, with approximately one million children, headed by grandparents with neither parent of the child present. This represents an increase of seventeen percent from the prior year.

Grandparents serve in this capacity out of love, and most importantly because, many times, there is no one else to do it. These grandparents assume the primary caregiving role to meet the challenges of contemporary American society where the parent might not be available to care for their children due to problems created by substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, divorce and separation, and even incarceration. Also, grandparents often intervene when their grandchildren are abused, neglected or abandoned. This family arrangement is represented in all socio-economic and ethnic groups.

Despite their extraordinary commitment, grandparents are often faced with financial, legal and social challenges. Grandparents are frequently in a unique situation, having raised their own families; they do not expect to have additional parenting

responsibilities. Many older primary caregivers have planned for their own later years and may live on a fixed income that makes it difficult for them to support additional people. They may lack affordable housing, access to medical services and coverage of medical expenses to care for their grandchildren. Despite the circumstances, these caregivers strive to make the best possible homes for their grandchildren. As a country, we must help to give these families the same advantages that we have given to "traditional families" in terms of tax and subsidy policies. We must also provide these families with additional support so they can acquire the services they need.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 198, has designated 1995 as the "Year of the Grandparent" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this event. A highlight of the year's commemoration will be the 1995 White House Conference on Aging to be held May 2-5 in Washington D.C., which will focus on a variety of issues confronting older Americans in today's society. In recognizing the importance of the interdependence of generations and the essential contributions of older individuals to society for the well-being of all generations, intergenerational relations will be an integral focus of the conference. As the last White House Conference on Aging in this century, its recommendations will affect national aging policy well into the next century.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the year 1995, as the Year of the Grandparent. I invite Federal officials, local government, advocacy groups, and families of the United States of America to join together in observing this year with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to commemorate the contributions that grandparents make to the lives of their families. It is necessary that we work to develop a network of national and community-based services in the child care, aging, legal services and family service fields to address and support this emerging phenomenon of grandparents raising grandchildren.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATION ON AGING



For Immediate Release
Thursday, June 8, 1995

Contact: Moya Benoit Thompson
202/401-4541

Administration on Aging and American Red Cross to Coordinate Disaster Relief Efforts

Fernando M. Torres-Gil, assistant secretary for aging in the Department of Health and Human Services will join American Red Cross (ARC) President Elizabeth Dole on Wednesday, June 14 in signing a Statement of Understanding which will make the delivery of relief efforts to elderly victims of disasters more effective and efficient.

Torres-Gil said, "This venture is a triumph for the Administration on Aging's (AoA) national disaster relief initiative. We have worked hard during this administration to ensure that the needs of the elderly are met. This collaboration with the American Red Cross is a major step toward ensuring that seniors receive the specialized and coordinated services they require during times of catastrophe or natural disaster."

The agreement calls for cooperative efforts between AoA and ARC in areas such as training, data collection, emergency meal distribution and transition of services. These areas have proven to be most critical in past disasters in the care of elderly survivors. "Often seniors need special short-term and long-term

-More-

assistance following disasters," said Torres-Gil, "We learned a lot about how to provide that assistance from those at the State and local level who worked, and continue to work, on the front lines with the seniors whose lives were impacted by the floods that ravaged the Midwest in 1993 or the Los Angeles earthquake in 1994."

The Administration on Aging is authorized by the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1992 to provide limited funds for disaster relief. In response to disasters, in particular those that have occurred in the past two years around the country, AoA, through its Post-Disaster Assessment Team, works closely with the aging network to provide older persons with the knowledge needed to obtain critical services that will help them maintain their independence.

Under the terms of the Statement of Understanding, the Administration on Aging will share information with the American Red Cross to assist them in locating older persons during disasters, help educate communities about disasters, and coordinate services when disasters occur. The American Red Cross has pledged to share its damage assessment data with the Administration on Aging and will establish regular communication with AoA to help improve service delivery to older citizens.

For more information about this agreement, please call the Administration on Aging's National Disaster Coordinator, Alicia Valadez Ors at (202) 619-2618.

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P.2
FTG - this was drafted by me,
edited by Greg + Alicia
& is being looked at
by Red Cross people.
So if you have
edits, let
me know!

draft

For Immediate Release

Administration on Aging and American Red Cross
Pledge to Coordinate Disaster Relief Efforts

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