



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary
Administration on Aging

Washington, D.C. 20201

February 23, 1995

Memorandum

TO: Carol Rasco, Domestic Policy Council

FROM: Fernando M. Torres-Gil, Assistant Secretary for Aging

SUBJECT: Older Americans Month, 1995

I wanted to take this opportunity to touch base and to alert you to a very important event that is rapidly approaching -- in addition to the much-awaited White House Conference on Aging, scheduled to take place May 2 through 5 here in Washington, D.C. -- Older Americans Month.

As you may recall, May is traditionally designated by the President as Older Americans Month, a month specifically set aside to honor the many contributions of our Nation's 33 million older Americans. We are greatly looking forward to this year's celebration, and we in the Administration on Aging and the Department of Health and Human Services are planning many events to acknowledge our older population, past and present and future. It is customary for the President to issue a proclamation designating May as Older Americans Month, a tradition begun by President John F. Kennedy in 1963 as Senior Citizens Month, and changed to Older Americans Month in 1980 by President Jimmy Carter. President Clinton has proclaimed May as Older Americans Month since he has been in office, and this gesture has been greatly appreciated by millions of senior citizens, in particular our proud veterans, their families and the remarkable network of aging service providers and volunteers throughout the country.

This Older Americans Month is very special. Not only does it occur simultaneously with the White House Conference on Aging, it also will mark the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Older Americans Act, one of the most successful social service program for older Americans of all time. As you know, the Older Americans Act, administered by the U.S. Administration on Aging, whose programs are provided to seniors by a vast aging services network of State and area agencies on aging, tribal organizations, and thousands of service providers offers a continuum of home and community-based care that enables older Americans to remain independent and living in homes and communities through their mature years. It is a program that enjoys tremendous bi-partisan support and has literally saved lives over its thirty year existence.

See p. 2
re: Proclamation

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
will happen
can we
EXEC
WEEK
THANKS

Page Two

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I would like to invite you to use any of these venues as you see fit to further convey the Administration's solid commitment to seniors and their concerns. I would also request that a proclamation be issued from the White House again this year to distinguish this special occasion, and when such a proclamation be issued, that a signing ceremony of note take place to highlight this occasion. Perhaps one of the Administration on Aging's events for Older Americans Month, the White House Conference on Aging, in particular when the President addresses the 2,259 delegates on May 3, or a special event at the White House would be appropriate.

As the Assistant Secretary for Aging, I can assure you that this gesture would be greatly applauded and appreciated by older Americans nationwide. I would be happy to discuss these ideas with you further, and hope to hear from you soon with your thoughts or comments. I can be reached at 202/401-4541.

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To:

Lynn

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

Draft response for CHR by: _____

Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by: _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: _____

Reply using form code: _____

File: _____

Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? :

☐ Accept

☐ Pending

☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks:

Pls. handle



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FEB 27 1995

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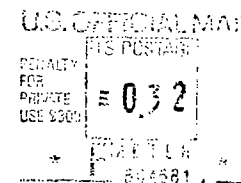
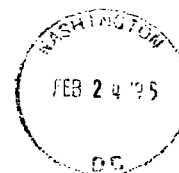
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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Administration on Aging
Washington, D.C. 20201

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Penalty for Private Use, \$300

Ms. Carol Rasco
Domestic Policy Council
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20500



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Quaker Oats

*faxed to WH 2/23
Cheryl Mills*

- Nepos ^{David Broder's speech transcript panel}
- Eya Voss 703/482-5221
See before next Wed if poss.

410/465-5774 / Maine
Stetson

- Japanese Embassy

Miho Sux - Off

~~Barbara~~ Barbara Choo - leg.

Anna Winderbaum

Julia Moffatt -

Jennifer Connor - Cab.

Karen Huss - First Lady's off.

Jeremy
Chris

→ NEC:

Finian into
DOH - wants to do something on pensions: saving early / working

Diff. members of Congress want to play role

Video conferencing project for Speak Out

People can dial in from any place in country

6-8 sites

Broadcasting for 2 hours

All maj. sessions put on satellite?

Agenda

AsA - no special

Public Affairs

AARP - Kevin Dunell. Share w/ Elaine

Sampling of focus groups

By end

Random sampling of policy recs from across country

Commonwealth Fund -

Diff. angles on employment issue

Who has RSVP'd

Broder - week after next

Blancato called

AFK-CIO & underwriting cost of delegates

2/7/95 WHCoA Meeting

Delegates:
2000

900 govts	872 in so far	MA
540 Congress	492 of 540	(Most unnamed as rollovers)
300 Nat'l orgs	150 of 300	
260 WH	80	
WHCoA	130	- Policy Comm
HHS	50	Brown: 5 Cisneros: 5 Pryor: 15-20
		Advisory Com Each gets to be a delegate

104th Congress: 250 add'l
Each new member gets one
Every gov gets 3 add'l names

Feb. 20th to name delegates

= 2260 delegates

250 Observers: Can come but not vote; pay own way
No determination on allocation + criteria

Our delegate process: name by mid March

HHS delegate process: Ray Martinez

HHS will submit 40 names initially

⇒ Follow up w/ Jennifer O'C; Jeremy calling Kevin

⇒ List of nat'l orgs getting delegates to Lux
Leadership Council of Seniors: 100
Joe Brown + Vets get 40

⇒ 2 weeks discuss names

Resolutions:

Conference sends resolutions to delegates in advance

Identification of key priority issues

Process they'll follow: commonality

LTC is dominant
Maintaining S.S.
Making sure housing is continued

Medicare cuts
SS
LTC
Elderly housing
Earnings tests
193 Increase to 85% over \$4K
COLA

Need: POTUS, HHS, Brown +

Bipartisan

Bill Cohen } attend invitations to them to speak
Connie Morella }

Define debate on 1st day around M'Care cuts.

Speak out - no media coverage

W/H CoA:

17 satellite locations being chosen by Baby Bell, donors

Mini conferences:

To what extent is outreach being done for conferences?

Orchestrate M'Care theme around country March + Apr.
Can change focus of events

2/9/95

WtCoA. Bot

Focus group - Sun PM or Mon PM focus group event?

Advisory Committee - ~~meeting~~ we have to name a chair.

Sugg -

7 of 30, have yet to be cleared.
Meeting is set for March 3

Atlanta : March 10-13th

American Society on Aging
Largest event. Made into plenary session.
Possible opp. to get focused comments/recs.

What could we try to orchestrate as outcome?
Medicare

Town hall meeting approach. No debate.
WtCoA Blair to moderate for 1/2 hours.
Does overview of conference
Opens up for discussion

2/14 Discussion w/ Jan O'C

→ March 10-13th Atlanta

250 ~~Observers~~
Attendees?

Roll out -

Take Joffe + put against political target states
Talking pts for Cabinet members

Julia

[Clinton accomplishments for seniors
Stump speech/goals for Cabinet members to accomp.
Significant event - big audience + local press
Priority states

Put together schedule matched against target states

March 12-18th POTUS proclamation
Is POTUS doing an event?

Not POTUS
Workers
Employment
Week

- 1) Repts. ~~participative~~
accomplishments by seniors - update what
they sent us in October
- 2) ~~Review resolutions~~ Who would be good surrogates?
- 3) Define ~~topic~~ topic areas for politically sensitive ~~areas~~
subjects w/ seniors

Roll out

→ Senior centers @ sub-cabinet level

Tasks:

- Julia mtg on Fri. = Pot 11 AM - 1 PM
- Lyn to read cabinet info
- Set up mtg w/ cabinet reps = ^{1 PM} pitfall or diff. topics
more frequent important events
- Inten to cross walk w/ events/states

3/7/95

POTUS Week Post editorial = March 28~~th~~

White House Conf. on Aging process -
grassroots, ideas broadening agenda
for future

Previous White House Conf. on Aging -
M'Care

Importance of M'Care + S.S. to seniors
strengthening program providing
more choices; Democrats + Rep. alike
support S.S. M'Care is part of S.S. -
people pay in/funded in same way.
Contract w/ people - Part A is same
mech. Need to contain overall cost
need to do it in way that provides more
choices to elderly. Arbitrary cut unacc.
New cut in context of broader reforms
that are health care priority strategy.
Reform leads to long-term deficit red.
Make program more efficient.

Preserve S.S. + M'Care Trust Fund. Can't
say you're committed to one + not the
other.

Housing + quality of life

Elaine:

COB Wed 22nd submission

Ralph Nader, Pryor, Blawie, POTUS, Dyckwald

Length - No longer than 800 words. Double space = 2 1/2 pgs.

Run last wk of April in Special Supplement

Cohen for Republican perspective