

Older Americans

REPORT

Affiliated with: Aging Research & Training News • Healthcare Management Solutions • Managing Senior Care • Mental Health Report

Vol. 20 No. 18

May 3, 1996

Page 143

SLANTS & TRENDS

TWO ENDURING MESSAGES came out of the White House Conference on Aging (WHCOA) — held one year ago this month, its former Executive Director Robert Blancato told OAR in a retrospective interview. (See story, this page.)

One message is that — while government's role in aging policy may be changing — government still has a fundamental need to take care of the vulnerable and needy of all ages. That message is clear "through all the resolutions that came out" of the WHCOA, Blancato noted.

Second, the conference redefined "aging policy" away from being solely concentrated on "the aged," to a policy that affects all the generations. That focus will manifest itself over the coming years, Blancato asserted.

The WHCOA will continue to contribute to future aging policy, Blancato said. There is a "tremendous window of opportunity in 1997" for long-term care. "It's a gut feeling I have," he said. The WHCOA resolution endorsing home and community-based care succeeded because "people pitched it differently" and based it on a cost-effective approach. This "will have more influence than it has ever had before in terms of how you re-shape Medicare and Medicaid programs."

The impact of the WHCOA has already been felt in other ways. Blancato ticked off several pieces of key legislation whose outcome was influenced by conference recommendations. See p. 144.

"We cannot go back to the days not so very long ago when senior Americans after years of hard work and sacrifice were rewarded with loneliness, inadequate health care and poverty — the poorest group in our country."

— Hillary Rodham Clinton

Inside This Issue

Legislative Impact of WHCOA.....Page 144

*Senate Labor Works on
OAA in Fits and StartsPage 145*

*NICOA, AoA Release First
Indian Elder Mapping Project.....Page 146*

*Insurer-Provider Communication
Optimizes Care of Patients.....Page 146*

*GAO Focuses Medicare Reform
On Home Health, SNFsPage 147*

*NCOA Attendees Mourn Loss of
Funding for Some OAA Programs..Page 147*

FY96 Appropriations for Elderly...Page 148

State Adult Foster Care Programs..Page 149

Medicare Was Marquee of 1995 WHCOA, Director Says

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging underwent more fundamental political change than any other conference and showcased Medicare as its "marquee." It also brought focus to issues such as grandparents as caregivers, diversity in aging and the role of organizations not traditionally involved in aging, such as businesses and disability advocates, its Executive Director Robert Blancato told OAR.

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCOA) will be remembered as "the most pragmatic WHCOA," dictated by the realities of politics and the economy, Blancato predicted.

(Continued)



Business Publishers, Inc. • 951 Pershing Drive • Silver Spring, MD 20910-4464 • Leonard A. Elserer, President & Publisher
Editor: Nancy Aldrich
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Older Americans Report (ISSN 0146-3640), published weekly (includes Aging Services News). Subscription rate: \$345 per year for subscribers in the U.S., Canada and Mexico (includes shipping); all other countries, add \$25. Six-month and multiple-year rates available on request. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to BPI, 951 Pershing Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20910-4464. Editorial: (301) 587-6300; FAX (301) 587-1081. Customer Service: (301) 589-5103 or (800) 274-6737; FAX (301) 589-8493. For fastest service, include account number when you call or write. For information on reprints, contact Copyright Clearance Center, (508) 750-8400. To purchase documents flagged R, call 1-800-274-6737.

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WHCOA: O Year After (Cont.)

Ironically, the conference "will probably go down in history as not having proposed hardly anything new at all." Its focus was on making aging programs survive. "If we can keep them strong, they will do their job," Blancato asserted.

The WHCOA delegates "looked at what resources we have and decided how we can make improvements, taking into account the changing dynamics of our population and the political and economic environment we are operating in."

Unlike other WHCOAs where you might have to wait 10 years to see some of the products that come from it, the realities of this conference meant delegates had to confront "here and now issues" in a very definitive way, Blancato noted.

There was no WHCOA that underwent any more "fundamental political change than ours did," Blancato said. "It was the first WHCOA conducted under a Democratic president, conducted in the first year of the first Republican Congress in 40 years." Medicare became the "marquee showcase issue" after delegates were galvanized by Republican refusals to announce details of their intent to cut Medicare (OAR, May 5, 1995, p. 156).

Kudos to the Network

The aging network was energized by the conference, and will stay on these issues, try to make changes in current legislation, look for new legislation, go to the state capitols and seek implementation of the resolutions. "I think the people will take charge and move forward with them," the executive director said.

Blancato had praise for all components of the aging network. The area agencies on aging were among the first to conduct pre-conference events to help set the agenda. State agencies were very effective and the nutrition network did a very good job. But also business people and the disability community did their jobs very well.

For a look at the conference's legislative impact, see box to right.

NOT RIDING OFF INTO THE SUNSET: With the sunseting of the White House Conference on Aging, Robert Blancato is now a partner at the public relations/consulting firm of Matz, Shea and Blancato in Washington, D.C. (OAR, Dec. 15, p. 424).

Legislative Impact of WHCOA

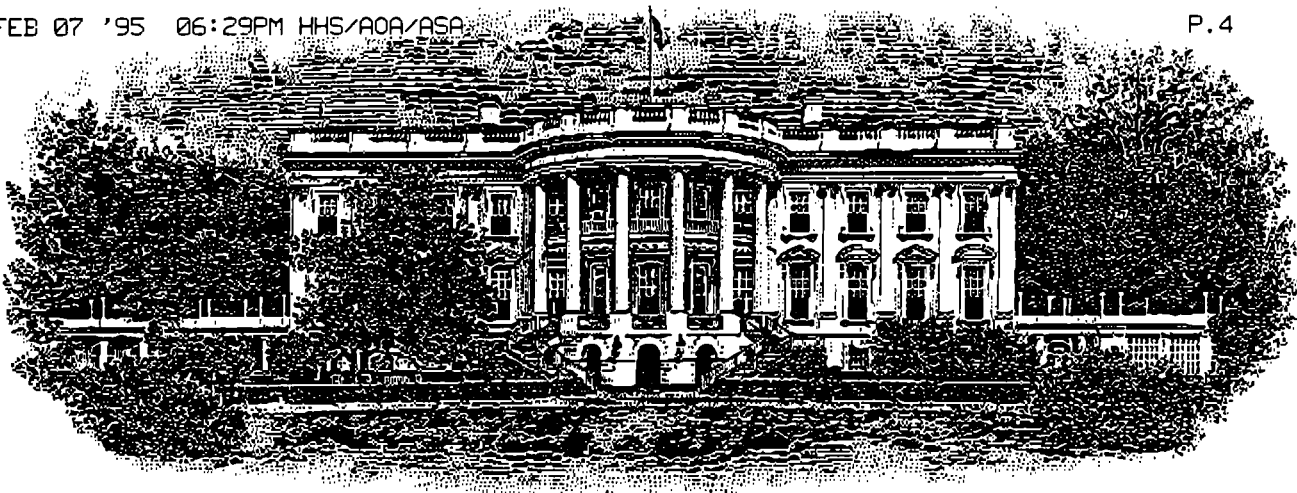
The impact of the WHCOA can be seen in several pieces of legislation, Bob Blancato said:

(1) **Budget Reconciliation.** The presidential veto of the budget reconciliation bill (H.R. 2491) was encouraged by post-conference findings, published by WHCOA, many of which urged the president to veto such a bill. "The grassroots political activity really peaked after the conference," once delegates saw the actual magnitude of Congress' proposed cuts: \$270 billion from Medicare, \$154 billion from Medicaid, a \$245 billion tax cut, and a \$100 million FY'96 reduction in the Older-Americans Act. Advocates were able to use the WHCOA resolutions to restate their opposition to the specific proposals. This was done at the local level in congressional home districts and state conferences.

(2) **Mental Health Parity.** The Domenici mental health amendment — adopted as part of the health insurance bill (S. 1028) that passed last week — "comes directly from a resolution in the WHCOA." The amendment would require private insurers to give mental illnesses parity with physical illnesses in benefits and coverage. Blancato noted that one of the more interesting things that happened during the WHCOA was the coalition that formed around mental health and aging issues. One of its main themes was that coverage, both public and private, must give parity to mental illnesses.

(3) **OAA Reauthorization.** Proposed amendments to pending Older Americans Act (OAA) legislation reflect the strong vote of WHCOA delegates in support of the act and their reiteration of that support back in the field, Blancato said. Congress should be willing to listen, because many of these same delegates were appointed by congressmen. [At last week's National Council on the Aging conference, President James Firman said seven of the 11 major OAA proposals adopted by the WHCOA are being ignored in both the House and Senate bills.]

(4) **NIH Aging Research.** The WHCOA called for a new commitment of funding for all forms of aging research and that crusade has been continued since the conference. Blancato noted that National Institutes of Health funding proposals were higher for FY'96 and FY'97.



1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING FACT SHEET

The fourth White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) -- and the last of this century -- will be held May 2-5, 1995, in Washington, D.C. President Clinton called for the Conference on February 17, 1994. The WHCoA Policy Committee, a 25-member body appointed by the President and the Congress, set the dates and place at its first meeting on July 27, 1994. Senator David Pryor (D-AR) chairs the Policy Committee.

On January 25, 1995, the Policy Committee approved a theme and final Conference agenda. The theme is "America Now and Into the 21st Century: Generations Aging Together with Independence, Opportunity and Dignity." Four broad issues comprise the agenda: (1) Assuring Comprehensive Health Care Including Long Term Care, (2) Promoting Economic Security, (3) Maximizing Housing and Support Service Options, and (4) Maximizing Options for a Quality Life. In deciding on the theme and final agenda, the Policy Committee considered public comments on theme possibilities and a draft agenda published in the Federal Register October 12, 1994. In addition, reports and recommendations from hundreds of officially recognized WHCoA events throughout the country were considered in developing the final agenda, which was published in the Federal Register February 2, 1995.

Two cross-cutting concerns pervade the agenda and will influence discussions at the Conference. These are: (1) interdependence among generations and among members of extended families, and the responsibility of individuals to plan for changes that will occur throughout their lifespan; and (2) unique contributions and needs of special populations, especially veterans, caregivers (including grandparents), rural elderly, women, minorities and individuals with disabilities.

Purposes of the WHCoA are to shape resolutions that will influence national aging policy over the next decade and design a strategy for putting policy into action -- for implementing the resolutions the Conference produces.

-over-

NEWS FROM

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 3, 1995

Contact: Bryan Preston
J. D. Schremser
202-245-0105

WHCOA ANNOUNCES INCREASE IN NUMBER OF CONFERENCE DELEGATES

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) today announced that the number of delegates to the Conference has been increased by 259. The increase, recently approved by the WHCoA Policy Committee, brings the total number of delegates up to 2,259.

The last WHCoA of this century and the fourth in history will be held May 2-5, 1995, in Washington, D.C. Conference delegates will develop resolutions to influence national aging policy over the next decade and begin mapping out a strategy for putting the resolutions into action.

"In the spirit of bipartisanship, the Policy Committee increased the number of delegates to give new Governors and new Members of Congress an opportunity to name delegates to the Conference," said Senator David Pryor (D-AR), who chairs the 25-member Committee. "Every American has a stake in the 1995 White House Conference on Aging, and the Policy Committee's aim is to make the Conference as representative as possible."

Each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will have three additional delegates. Each territory will have one additional delegate. Each new Member of Congress will have one delegate.

With the change, the number of state and territorial delegates will increase to a total of 1,062, up from 901. The number of delegates named by Members of Congress will increase to a total of 638, up from 540. Other delegates to the Conference will be named by constituent organizations (including national aging organizations and veterans groups), the White House, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the WHCoA.

-30-

NOTE: Chart with breakdown of State and Congressional delegations is on back of page.

**WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING
STATE/CONGRESS DELEGATE TABLE**

January 31, 1995

State/Territory	State	Congress	Combined Total	State/Territory	State	Congress	Combined Total
Alabama	19	9	28	New Hampshire	11	5	16
Alaska	10	3	13	New Jersey	28	18	46
Arizona	18	12	30	New Mexico	12	5	17
Arkansas	15	6	21	New York	52	36	88
California	69	60	129	North Carolina	25	19	44
Colorado	16	8	24	North Dakota	11	3	14
Connecticut	17	8	25	Ohio	35	26	61
Delaware	11	3	14	Oklahoma	17	12	29
District of Columbia	9	1	10	Oregon	16	9	25
Florida	51	28	79	Pennsylvania	42	29	71
Georgia	22	16	38	Puerto Rico	9	1	10
Hawaii	12	4	16	Rhode Island	12	5	17
Idaho	11	5	16	South Carolina	17	10	27
Illinois	35	25	60	South Dakota	11	3	14
Indiana	22	15	37	Tennessee	21	16	37
Iowa	16	9	25	Texas	43	37	80
Kansas	15	8	23	Utah	12	6	18
Kentucky	18	10	28	Vermont	11	3	14
Louisiana	18	9	27	Virginia	22	14	36
Maine	12	7	19	Washington	20	17	37
Maryland	19	11	30	West Virginia	14	5	19
Massachusetts	23	12	35	Wisconsin	21	12	33
Michigan	30	21	51	Wyoming	10	5	15
Minnesota	19	13	32	American Samoa	2	1	3
Mississippi	15	8	23	Guam	2	1	3
Missouri	22	13	35	Virgin Islands	2	2	4
Montana	11	3	14	Pacific Trust Terr.	4	0	4
Nebraska	13	6	19				
Nevada	12	5	17				
				Grand Total	1062	638	1700

NEWS FROM

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 27, 1995

Contact: Bryan Preston
202-245-0105

SECRETARY SHALALA AND SENATOR PRYOR PRAISE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING AGENDA

HHS Secretary Donna Shalala and U.S. Senator David Pryor (D-Arkansas) today praised the final agenda of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA), with Shalala calling it "responsive and responsible, ensuring that this White House Conference on Aging will be different from any of its three predecessors."

In deciding on issues for the final Conference agenda, the WHCoA Policy Committee, chaired by Pryor, considered both public comments and reports and recommendations from hundreds of officially recognized WHCoA events throughout the country. Four broad issues comprise the final agenda. They are: (1) Assuring Comprehensive Health Care Including Long Term Care, (2) Promoting Economic Security, (3) Maximizing Housing and Support Service Options, and (4) Maximizing Options for a Quality Life.

Pryor noted, "This is the first time in WHCoA history that the public has had a direct impact on the agenda. Senior citizens, volunteers, professionals and advocates all contributed."

Shalala added, "This White House Conference on Aging is unique in that it focuses on key issues and does not look to government as the only source of programs and policies for the aging. Its agenda specifically calls on the Conference and its 2,250 delegates to develop a limited number of comprehensive resolutions, each specifying who is to be responsible for its implementation -- whether individuals, families, the private sector, or government."

The agenda, along with the theme, "America Now and Into the 21st Century: Generations Aging Together with Independence, Opportunity and Dignity," will be published in the February 2 Federal Register. The White House Conference on Aging was called by President Clinton in February, 1994 and has the responsibility to develop resolutions which will influence national aging policy over the coming decade and to develop strategies to put these resolutions into action. The Conference will take place May 2-5, 1995 at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C.

NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
OF STATE UNITS
ON AGING

NASUA

1225 I Street, N.W.
Suite 725
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 898-2578**MEMORANDUM**

TO: State Units on Aging

FROM: Dan Quire *[Signature]*

DATE: January 25, 1995

SUBJ: WHCOA Update

OPTIONAL FORM 98 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL# of pages **3**

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Fax # <i>456-7028</i>	Fax #
NSN 7540-01-317-7368	5099-101

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

The Policy Committee of the 1995 WHCOA met today and made a number of decisions concerning the agenda and other issues related to the Conference. I have enclosed a summary of the final agenda notice which will be published in the Federal Register in early February.

In addition the Policy Committee made the following decisions:

- o Additional Conference Delegates - Due to the political changes which occurred in November, 250 additional WHCOA delegates were approved. These delegates will be allocated as follows: three (3) additional delegates from each Governor, one (1) additional delegate from each territory and one (1) delegate appointed by each new member of the Congress. These names will be due most likely by late February. You should receive official notice from the WHCOA shortly.
- o Conference Observers - The Committee established a category of "observer" not to exceed 250 persons who will be allowed to participate in some sessions but not vote. They will be required to pay a registration fee. How these observers are to be chosen has not been decided as yet.
- o Alternate Delegates - No final decision has been made concerning the number of alternate delegates who might be able to participate if they pay their own expenses. However, because of logistical issues the number will be very small.
- o Teleconferencing - It was announced that negotiations are underway but not final to establish up to ten (10) satellite locations to expand the number of persons who could observe the Washington event.

NEWS FROM

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 7, 1994

Contact: Bryan Preston
202-245-7830

SENIORS SPEAK OUT

"Don't mess with Social Security! How long will I be able to remain independent? Who will take care of me and my family? Change the way the media portrays the elderly!"

These are just some of the messages being sent to the Administration through the White House Conference on Aging's ongoing focus group project. The project, conducted by the University of New Mexico Center on Aging in cooperation with the Gerontological Society of America, began its work last February on the same day that President Clinton called for the convening of the White House Conference on Aging. The White House Conference on Aging is scheduled to take place May 2-5, 1995 in Washington, D.C.

The focus group project, funded by the Retirement Research Foundation and the Corporation for National Service, involves the collection of candid, qualitative data from seniors at the grass-roots level. The most recent findings came from a group of 167 seniors in 11 different locations across the country who were asked to respond to questions about a) what it means to get older, b) the special concerns of older persons, c) treatment by the media, d) the keys to healthy living, and e) generational relationships.

Fears and concerns included health, finances, security, dependency and a sense of worthlessness. In some instances, both the media and youth were attributed with viewing the elderly as helpless and burdensome, although some media were seen as moving toward a "more balanced view of aging." Involvement in daily or regular activities, a good mental outlook and helping others were cited as keys to healthy aging, according to participants.

The White House Conference on Aging's mission is to increase public awareness about the essential contributions of older individuals to society and to identify the problems facing older individuals today. It is hearing the concerns and views of seniors all across the Nation through this project, and through the approximately 600 pre-conference events taking place around the country.

These findings will be incorporated into the overall suggested issues for consideration at the national White House Conference on Aging next year. Recommendations from the White House Conference on Aging will be the basis for national aging policy for the 21st century.

-end-

NEWS FROM

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 6, 1994

Contact: Katie Miller
202-245-7835

PUBLIC INVITED TO COMMENT ON WHCOA DRAFT AGENDA

For the first time in White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) history, the public will be invited to comment on its proposed agenda. The decision to set aside as much time as practical to ensure the widest possible range of input was made by the 1995 WHCoA Policy Committee at its meeting in Washington, D.C. on October 5.

By unanimous vote, the Policy Committee, chaired by Senator David Pryor (D-AR), agreed on the terms of a draft agenda to be printed in the Federal Register by mid-October. The public will be invited to review and make comments until December 1, 1994.

The draft agenda asks the public to help choose a theme for the 1995 WHCoA, which is scheduled for May 2-5, 1995, in Washington, D.C. It also presents a series of issues and subissues which could be addressed by the Conference and asks specific suggestions on linking issues to achieve a broader set of recommendations that will influence national aging policy. All the suggested themes focus the WHCoA on the future--aging into the 21st century. The 19 major issues range from health and economic security to image, productiveness, and technology.

"We view this process as being critical to our efforts to ensure maximum citizen and organizational involvement in the planning and conducting of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging," said Senator Pryor in announcing the Policy Committee decision. "The approval to publish the proposed agenda for public comment is a major step forward in the planning of this historic meeting. We are particularly intent that special emphasis be placed on soliciting suggestions and ideas from a wide range of sources--especially from the grassroots. This Conference will look at a diverse range of issues, including the needs and contributions of today's and tomorrow's older Americans."

In the seven months since President Clinton officially called it, the WHCoA has developed a full national program of pre-conference events and activities. More than 500 local events have been scheduled or held, including more than 280 events and 125 mini-conferences. In addition, all States and the 10 Federal regions have scheduled meetings. The recommendations from these events will also be used to structure the final Conference agenda.

-0-

Wednesday
October 12, 1994

Proposed Agenda for Public Comment

White House Conference on Aging
Administration on Aging
Department of Health and Human Services

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Washington, D.C. 20201

Official Business

Penalty for Private Use, \$300

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration on Aging; White House
Conference on Aging**

**Proposed Agenda for the 1995 White
House Conference on Aging; Request
for Public Comment on the Proposed
Agenda**

AGENCY: White House Conference on
Aging, AoA, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of proposed agenda for
public comment.

SUMMARY: The Policy Committee of the
White House Conference on Aging is
publishing its proposed Conference
agenda for public comment as required
by Public Law 102-375, the Older
Americans Act Amendments of 1992.
Part I of the proposed agenda is a listing
of several themes, Part II is a listing of
the major issues and subissues and Part

III proposes a process for review of the Conference recommendations.

Comments are invited on:

- (1) Choice of a theme (Part I);
- (2) Choice of issues and subissues to be addressed at the Conference (Part II);
- (3) Linkage of issues and subissues to ensure delegates are informed on all issues (Part II); and
- (4) Review of Conference recommendations by the Advisory and Policy Committees (Part III).

The Conference is to be held May 2-5, 1995 in Washington, DC.

DATES: Comments on the proposed agenda and post-conference recommendation process must be received on or before December 1, 1994. The Policy Committee has decided to set aside as much time as practical to ensure a wide range of input from all interested organizations and individuals. All public comments received will be valuable in structuring the draft final agenda which is to be completed in January for review by the Policy Committee.

ADDRESSES: All comments concerning this proposed agenda should be addressed to Robert B. Blancato, Executive Director, White House Conference on Aging, 501 School Street, SW., 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20024-2755. Comments may be mailed to Mr. Blancato at the above address or FAXed to (202) 245-7857. His INTERNET address (CONFERENCE@BAN-GATE.AOA.DHHS.GOV) may also be used to submit comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: White House Conference on Aging, 501 School Street SW., 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20024-2755 or the White House Conference on Aging Information Line at (202) 245-7815. To provide 24-hour coverage, calls to this number may be answered by an answering machine.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public Law 102-375 requires that the Policy Committee (which oversees the 1995 White House Conference on Aging) formulate and approve a proposed agenda for the Conference and that this proposed agenda be published in the Federal Register for public comment.

The statutory language urges the 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) to work jointly with States, individuals, and public and private organizations to develop a proposed agenda which reflects the major issues facing older Americans and their communities. The collection of public comments began immediately after President Clinton formally called for the 1995 WHCoA in February 1994. Special

emphasis has been placed on soliciting suggestions and ideas from a wide range of sources—especially from the grassroots.

Input received from a variety of local, state, regional and national events conducted on behalf of the WHCoA over the past several months points toward an agenda which goes beyond traditional boundaries and paints a broader picture of aging—an agenda that looks at the present and the future. This Conference should examine a wide range of issues, including the needs and contributions of today's and tomorrow's older citizens. This far-reaching examination is evident in the broad support which has emerged for a theme and issues which incorporate the generational aspects of aging. Congress also included the generational issue in the statute by mandating that the Conference look at the interdependence of generations, the contributions of older individuals to societal well-being and the commonality of problems facing both older and younger individuals.

Initial suggestions from the grassroots for Conference themes and agenda issues have been used by the Policy Committee to develop the proposed agenda for the 1995 WHCoA. Over 400 pre-conference events have been held around the country to develop policy recommendations for building the agenda for the Conference.

Part I. Themes

Below is a listing of proposed themes from which we expect the final theme for the Conference to emerge based primarily on the public comments received. These four proposed themes are:

- *Aging into the 21st Century: Generations Working Together for a Better Community.*
- *Investing in an Aging Society into the 21st Century: Independence, Opportunity and Dignity for All Americans.*
- *Investing Now in America's Future: A Lifetime of Productivity and Opportunity.*
- *America Now and into the 21st Century: Growing Older with Independence, Opportunity and Dignity.*

The public is invited to indicate a preferred theme from among these alternatives or to suggest additional themes for consideration by the Policy Committee.

Part II. Issues

This part of the proposed agenda is a listing of major issues and subissues derived from a variety of sources, including:

- (1) Recommendations from past White House Conferences on Aging;
- (2) Recommendations produced by events preceding the 1995 WHCoA; and
- (3) Input from national aging organizations, professionals and advocates.

We are eliciting comments on the relative importance of these issues and subissues. We are also seeking suggestions on ways to link the various issues and subissues.

The major issues and subissues identified by the Policy Committee are listed below in alphabetical order:

Arts and Humanities

- Access
- Contributions by Elderly
- Continuing Education
- Therapy

Crime/Personal Safety

- Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation
- Neighborhood Violence and Safety
- Prevention and Protection
- Domestic Violence
- Enforcement
- Fear of Crime and Social Isolation
- Consumer Fraud

Cultural Diversity

- Access to Services
- Civil Rights
- Cultural Sensitivity
- Cultural Contributions or Cultural

Enrichment

- Language
- Literacy

Employment

- Extended Full-time and Continued Employment Options
- Part-Year, Part-Time and Re-employment Options
- Education and Training
- Age Discrimination
- Downsizing
- Underemployment
- Pre-retirement
- Phased Retirement
- Access to Work-related Benefits

Families and Family Life

- Impact of Demographic Changes
- Ethnicity
- Partnerships with Caregiving

Agencies

Health

- Prevention/Wellness
- Nutrition/Exercise
- Health Care Reform
- Long-term Care: Home, Community-based and Institutional
- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Acute Care

- Mental Health and Substance Abuse
- Disabilities/Assistive Devices
- Rehabilitation
- Health Problems of the Aged
- Access
- Death/Dying
- Hearing and Vision Impairment
- Medication (prescription and non-prescription drugs)
- Medical Supplies and Durable Medical Equipment
- Women's Health
- Negative Attitudes of Professionals

Housing/Social and Community Services

- Range of Affordable Options
- Service Infrastructure
- Accessible Housing
- Public and Assisted Housing
- Alternative Housing Arrangements
- Financing Options
- Community, Geographic and Demographic Changes
- Home Maintenance
- Senior Centers
- Independent Living
- Intergenerational Supports
- Aging in Place

Image of Older People

- Positive and Accurate Portrayal
- Stereotypes
- Media/Advertising

Income Security and Other Benefits

- Social Security (including gender-based discrimination)
- Economic Growth
- Tax and Budget Policies
- Income
- Pensions (including gender-based discrimination)
- Savings and Asset Management
- SSI
- Food Stamps

Interdependence of Generations

- Caregivers
- Grandparents as Caregivers
- Reciprocity

Older Americans Act and Its Role

- Aging Network
- Community Planning
- Senior Centers
- Targeting
- Native Americans/Minority/Rural
- Senior Employment
- Training Professionals and Paraprofessionals

Services

- Elder Rights
- Advocacy

Productive Older People

- Work Force Participation
- Volunteerism/Mentoring

- Community Involvement
- Older People as Caregivers
- Corporation for National and Community Service
- Political/Civic Participation

Quality of Life/Meaning in Later Years

- Autonomy
- Ethics and Values
- Education and Training Options
- Spiritual Well-being
- Religion
- Leisure and Recreational Activities
- Life-long Learning
- Aging in Place
- Safeguarding Cultural/Linguistic Integrity

Research and Education/Training

- Biomedical, Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Employment
- Public Policy
- Information, Knowledge and Technology Transfer

Rights/Responsibilities/Advocacy

- Civil Rights
- Discrimination
- Empowerment
- Guardianship/Conservatorship
- Legal Issues
- Legislative Oversight

Role of the Private Sector

- Marketing
- Consumers
- Service Providers

Special Constituencies

- Older Women
- Elders of Color, Minority and Ethnic Elders
- Veterans
- Persons with Disabilities
- Oldest Old
- Elders Living in Poverty or Near Poverty Line
- Homeless
- Mentally Ill
- Mental Retardation/Development Disabilities

- Substance Abuse
- Gays/Lesbians
- Persons Living with AIDS/HIV
- Rural
- Urban
- Family-less Individuals
- Elders Living Alone
- Older Prisoners

Technology

- Assistive Devices
- Information Superhighway
- Possibilities

Transportation

- Older Drivers
- Accessibility

- Public Investment
- Options

As previously mentioned, comments are invited on the above list as well as on other issues and subissues which should be addressed at the Conference. Public comment is also invited on a strategy for effectively linking issues and subissues both for discussion and for developing recommendations.

It is anticipated that a large number of responses will be received from the public during the comment period. All comments received will be reviewed and answered. The Policy Committee will establish priorities among the issues based on public response to the proposed agenda. These prioritized issues will ultimately provide the foundation for the final Conference agenda which will be published in the **Federal Register**. Conference delegates will receive information about the final agenda in advance of the Conference to allow them to prepare and actively participate in the 1995 WHCoA.

Part III. Post-Conference Action on Recommendations

During the Conference, delegates will begin the process of establishing priorities for action among the recommendations they produce. Immediately after the Conference, the Advisory Committee (appointed by the President), followed by the Policy Committee, will be responsible for further developing the prioritized recommendations of the Conference for inclusion in the proposed Conference report.

This proposed report will be submitted to each State Governor for review and comment as required by the Statute. After reviewing the comments of the Governors, the Policy Committee will prepare and approve an initial report of the Conference to be published in the **Federal Register**. The Policy Committee will also prepare a separate report on the necessary administrative and legislative actions to implement the recommendations in the Conference report.

The final Conference report will serve as a catalyst as well as provide a blueprint for proposed post-WHCoA implementation activities. This action-oriented blueprint will provide the framework for immediate and longer-term actions to implement the Conference's highest priority recommendations. This blueprint will also identify areas and tasks in which the public and private sectors, governmental and non-governmental organizations and agencies, can play a role in implementing the Conference recommendations. These may include

private initiatives as well as the enactment of public policies and laws affecting aging Americans, their families and their communities now and into the 21st century.

Dated: October 6, 1994.

Fernando M. Torres-Gil,

Assistant Secretary for Aging.

[FR Doc. 94-25175 Filed 10-11-94; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4130-02-M

NEWS FROM

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 1994

Contact: Katie Miller

202-245-7835

WHCOA ANNOUNCES UPDATED STATE DELEGATE TOTALS

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) today announced increased delegate totals for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and three territories. The expanded State delegations are made possible by the appropriation of \$3.0 million for the WHCoA in the Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill which was signed into law by President Clinton on September 30, 1994.

The specific increase rests with those delegates named by Governors. Nine hundred delegates out of a total of 2000 will come from the states and will be selected by Governors, an increase of 150 from preliminary estimates made earlier this year by the WHCoA. Governors will be advised of their ability to choose additional delegates.

"The final 1995 appropriation allows us to plan for the full complement of 2000 delegates," said Senator David Pryor (D-AR), chairman of the WHCoA Policy Committee. "This larger number of delegates will enable each state to advocate for the special needs of its elderly population and to be part of a diverse unit making recommendations on national aging policy which will take the country into the 21st century."

The number of delegates for each state is based on the percentage of the state's population age 55 and older, compared to the nation's total population age 55 and older. In addition, each state delegation must comply with a matrix requiring that 50 percent of its delegates must be age 55 and over; 50 percent women; and the percentage of urban, rural, and minority delegates be equal to the state's population of these constituencies. In addition, each member of the State's Congressional delegation will name one delegate. All delegates appointed by Governors and Members of Congress must be selected by December 31, 1994.

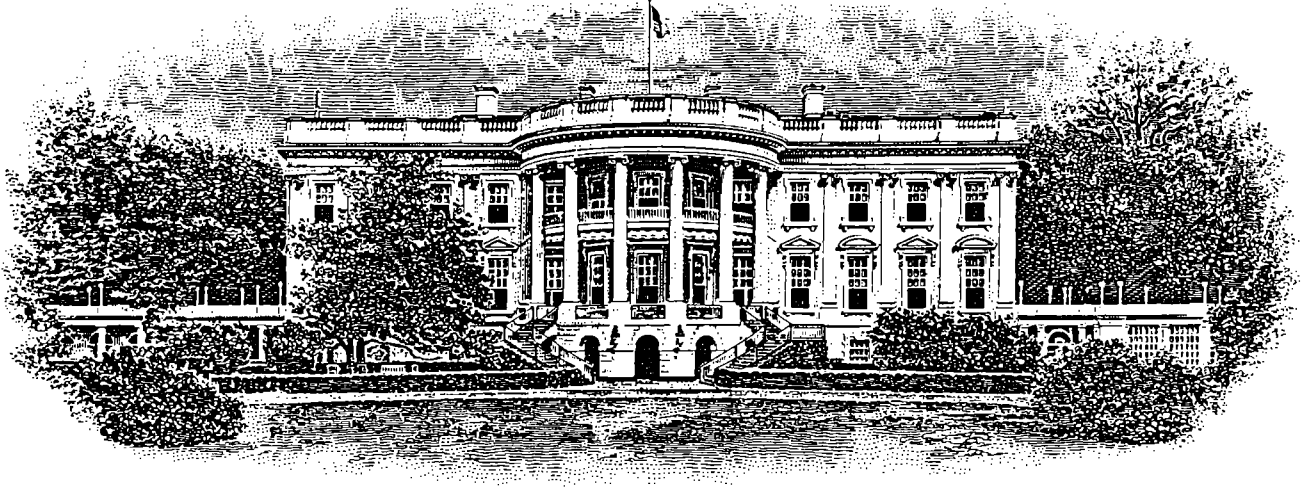
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NOTE: Chart with breakdown of State and Congressional delegations is on back of page.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING
STATE/CONGRESS DELEGATE TABLE

October 1994

State/Territory	State	Congress	Combined Total	State/Territory	State	Congress	Combined Total
Alabama	16	9	25	New Jersey	25	15	40
Alaska	7	3	10	New Mexico	9	5	14
Arizona	15	8	23	New York	49	33	82
Arkansas	12	6	18	North Carolina	22	14	36
California	66	54	120	North Dakota	8	3	11
Colorado	13	8	21	Ohio	32	21	53
Connecticut	14	8	22	Oklahoma	14	8	22
Delaware	8	3	11	Oregon	13	7	20
District of Columbia	6	1	7	Pennsylvania	39	23	62
Florida	48	25	73	Puerto Rico	6	1	7
Georgia	19	13	32	Rhode Island	9	4	13
Hawaii	9	4	13	South Carolina	14	8	22
Idaho	8	4	12	South Dakota	8	3	11
Illinois	32	22	54	Tennessee	18	11	29
Indiana	19	12	31	Texas	40	32	72
Iowa	13	7	20	Utah	9	5	14
Kansas	12	6	18	Vermont	8	3	11
Kentucky	15	8	23	Virginia	19	13	32
Louisiana	15	9	24	Washington	17	11	28
Maine	9	4	13	West Virginia	11	5	16
Maryland	16	10	26	Wisconsin	18	11	29
Massachusetts	20	12	32	Wyoming	7	3	10
Michigan	27	18	45	American Samoa	1	1	2
Minnesota	16	10	26	Guam	1	1	2
Mississippi	12	7	19	Virgin Islands	1	1	2
Missouri	19	11	30	Pacific Trust Terr.	1	0	1
Montana	8	3	11	Grand Total	900	540	1440
Nebraska	10	5	15	<i>Data are based on Bureau of Census</i>			
Nevada	9	4	13	<i>Estimated Resident Population (7/1/93).</i>			
New Hampshire	8	4	12	<i>The total number of delegates will be 2,000.</i>			



1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING FACT SHEET

The fourth White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) -- and the last of this century -- will be held May 2-5, 1995, in Washington, D.C. President Clinton called for the Conference on February 17, 1994. The WHCoA Policy Committee, a 25-member body appointed by the President and the Congress, set the dates and place at its first meeting on July 27, 1994. Senator David Pryor (D-AR) chairs the Policy Committee.

On January 25, 1995, the Policy Committee approved a theme and final Conference agenda. The theme is "America Now and Into the 21st Century: Generations Aging Together with Independence, Opportunity and Dignity." Four broad issues comprise the agenda: (1) Assuring Comprehensive Health Care Including Long Term Care, (2) Promoting Economic Security, (3) Maximizing Housing and Support Service Options, and (4) Maximizing Options for a Quality Life. In deciding on the theme and final agenda, the Policy Committee considered public comments on theme possibilities and a draft agenda published in the Federal Register October 12, 1994. In addition, reports and recommendations from hundreds of officially recognized WHCoA events throughout the country were considered in developing the final agenda, which was published in the Federal Register February 2, 1995.

Two cross-cutting concerns pervade the agenda and will influence discussions at the Conference. These are: (1) interdependence among generations and among members of extended families, and the responsibility of individuals to plan for changes that will occur throughout their lifespan; and (2) unique contributions and needs of special populations, especially veterans, caregivers (including grandparents), rural elderly, women, minorities and individuals with disabilities.

Purposes of the WHCoA are to shape resolutions that will influence national aging policy over the next decade and design a strategy for putting policy into action -- for implementing the resolutions the Conference produces.

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The 1995 Conference, authorized by the 1992 Amendments to the Older Americans Act, will have 2,258 delegates. In addition, it will have up to 250 observers, individuals who may attend the Conference but not vote. Delegates are selected by governors, members of Congress, constituent organizations (including national aging organizations and veterans groups), the White House, the HHS Secretary and the WHCoA.

Since President Clinton officially called it on February 17, 1994, the WHCoA has developed a full national program of pre-Conference events and activities. More than 700 events have been held or scheduled, including local, state, regional and mini-conferences. In addition, the WHCoA, in partnership with other organizations, has conducted more than 15 focus groups in a variety of cities throughout the country to gain direct input from individuals, primarily seniors, on their attitudes about aging and their views on what the WHCoA should focus on and strive to accomplish.

President Clinton appointed Robert B. Blancato as executive director of the 1995 WHCoA. Members of the WHCoA Policy Committee are:

David Pryor, U.S. Senate (D-AR), Chair
William S. Cohen, U.S. Senate (R-ME)
Daniel P. Moynihan, U.S. Senate (D-NY)
Barbara A. Mikulski, U.S. Senate (D-MD)
Constance A. Morella, U.S. House of Representatives (R-MD)
Andrew Jacobs, Jr., U.S. House of Representatives (D-IN)
William J. Hughes, U.S. House of Representatives (D-NJ)
(retired)
Matthew G. Martinez, U.S. House of Representatives (D-CA)
Donna E. Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services
Henry G. Cisneros, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
Jesse Brown, Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Norman Abramowitz, Mayor of Tamarac, FL
Bea G. Bacon, Central States Coalition on Aging, Olathe, KS
Horace B. Deets, Executive Director, American Association of Retired Persons
James T. DeLaCruz, Coordinator, Quinault Senior Citizens Program, Tahola, WA
Rose Dobrof, Executive Director, Brookdale Center on Aging of Hunter College, New York, NY
Madeleine R. Freeman, Orono, ME
Maralee Lindley, Director, Illinois Department on Aging, Springfield, IL
Thomas H.D. Mahoney, Cambridge, MA
Mary Rose Oakar, President, Healthright, Inc., Cleveland, OH
Herb A. Sanderson, Director, Division of Aging and Adult Services, Arkansas Department of Human Services,
Little Rock, AR
Samuel J. Simmons, President and Chief Executive Officer, National Caucus and Center on Black Aged, Inc.
Lawrence T. Smedley, Executive Director, National Council of Senior Citizens
Marta Sotomayor, President, National Hispanic Council on the Aging
Daniel Thursz, President, National Council on the Aging

FEBRUARY 1995

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NEWS FROM

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 25, 1995

Contact: Bryan Preston
202-245-0105

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING TAKES TO THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY: TEN SATELLITE LOCATIONS ANNOUNCED

Thousands of individuals will be able to observe and in some cases participate in segments of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) at one of at least ten satellite locations located across the U.S. (listed below).

Rhode Island Convention Center	Providence, RI
The Meadowlands Hilton	East Rutherford, NJ
The Convention Center	Pittsburgh, PA
Universal Studios	Orlando, FL
The Citiplace Convention Center	Dallas, TX
University of Arkansas	Little Rock, AK
University of California	Los Angeles, CA
San Diego Convention Center	San Diego, CA

These satellite locations have been made possible thanks to "in-kind" gifts to the WHCoA from five regional Bell operating companies: Pacific Telesis Group, BellSouth, NYNEX, Bell Atlantic, and SBC Communications.

Senator David Pryor (D-AR), chairman of the WHCoA policy Committee, remarked, "President Clinton stated that his goal was for this WHCoA to reach more people than did the previous three with the use of modern technology. We are proud that the President's goal will be met."

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging - the fourth in history - will take place May 2-5 at the Washington Hilton, in Washington, D.C. The Conference will bring together over 2250 delegates representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the territories to vote on resolutions that will help craft a national aging policy for the next ten years.

In addition to the satellite locations, anyone equipped to receive a Ku-band downlink can get the satellite coordinates to observe the conference by calling Mike Callahan at Advanced Engineering & Planning Corporation, Inc., in Alexandria, VA at 1-800-800-2372.