

August 9, 1995

The Honorable John E. Lyle
Chairman
Federal Council on the Aging
Room 4280
330 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear John:

Thank you so much for your kind letter.
I'm sorry that I was unable to respond to you
sooner.

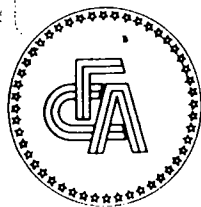
I was proud to participate in the White
House Conference on Aging, and I thought it
was a wonderful success. Your warm words of
encouragement and your hard work on behalf
of the elderly mean a great deal to me, and I
will certainly share your recommendations with
my staff.

I look forward to your continued
involvement.

Sincerely, **BILL CLINTON**

BC/SEM/KW/bws (Corres. #2360379)
(7.lyle.je)

cc: w/inc Molly Brostrom, ODP



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Federal Council On The Aging

330 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 4280, Washington, D.C. 20201 (202) 619-2451 FAX (202) 619-3759

CHAIRMAN

May 12, 1995

John E. Lyle
Houston, TX

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

Brian T. Lutz
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

COUNCIL
MEMBERS

The Federal Council on the Aging extends our sincere appreciation for your leadership in calling and participating in the very successful 1995 White House Conference on Aging.

Alice P. Bulos
So. San Francisco, CA

Eugene S. Callender
New York, NY

Your vision in calling a Conference process, based on the grass roots participation of Americans was a great achievement. The interest in our communities was extraordinary. I believe this extensive grass roots participation can be directly attributed to your interest and leadership, as well as your excellent appointment of Bob Blancato to head the Conference, and the dedicated support of Secretary Donna Shalala and the Assistant Secretary for Aging, Fernando Torres-Gil, and our Executive Director, Brian Lutz.

William B. Cashin
Manchester, NH

Rudolph H. Cleghorn
El Reno, OK

Stephen M. Farnham
Presque Isle, ME

Max L. Friedersdorf
Sanibel, FL

Listening to the concerns of persons in our communities, participating in dozens of local, state, and regional pre-conference events, and having the privilege to serve as delegates at the Conference, we respectfully submit for your review what we believe to be the five priority resolutions arising from the White House Conference on Aging.

Robert L. Goldman
Oklahoma City, OK

Connie Q. Hadley
Kansas City, KS

Olivia P. Maynard
Flint, MI

Josephine K. Oblinger
Williamsville, IL

Myrtle B. Pickering
Shreveport, LA

Your interest in our work and the well-being of older Americans throughout the country has been of great help and we are grateful. We are eager to assist you and the Congress in working to assure the enactment of the priority recommendations which have arisen from the grass roots process.

Raymond R. Raschko
Spokane, WA

Sincerely,

Romaine M. Turyn
Readfield, ME

E. Don Yoak
Spencer, W. VA

John E. Lyle
Chairman

Enclosure



Federal Council On The Aging

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The Five Most Important Grass Roots Messages From the Delegates to The 1995 White House Conference on Aging

Maintain the Social Security and Medicare Covenants With The American People

- Continue to reaffirm the covenant that the Government established with the American people with the establishment of Social Security and Medicare. Medicare can and should be improved, fraud and abuse should be addressed, and changes are needed to be made to make the program more solvent over the long-term. However, cuts in Medicare should not be used to balance the budget or pay for tax cuts.

Address Problems Facing Medicare and Medicaid Within the Context of Broad-Based Health Care Reform

- Medicare reform must be considered within the context of health care reform. Medicare cannot be "fixed" in isolation of the health care system as a whole, given that Medicare costs are rising at a slower rate than the costs for health care in general. The integrity of the Medicaid program should be preserved and it should not be block granted.

Long-Term Care Assistance is Critical to America's Families

- Long-term care assistance is critical to America's families, particularly policies which support home and community-based care and caregivers. Medicare and Medicaid must be protected from reduced health care and long-term care coverage. Federal protections under Medicaid need to be preserved for physical and mental health needs, as well as long-term care assistance, including community-based care.

Assure Better Access of Americans, Particularly Isolated Elders, to Mental Health Assistance

- The Federal Council strongly encourages policies which better meet the mental health needs of older Americans and their families, particularly efforts which assure outreach and access to vulnerable and isolated older individuals. These efforts should include a comprehensive range of quality mental health care, including outreach, in-home, preventive, acute, and long-term care services.



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Reauthorize the Older Americans Act, and Its Advocacy Functions,
in a Manner Which Maintains the Successful 30 Year History of the
Federal, State, and Local Aging Network Partnership

- The Federal Council strongly supports - and the delegates overwhelmingly passed - resolutions in support of legislation to reauthorize the Older Americans Act and build upon its highly successful federal, state, and local aging network partnership to ensure a seamless continuum of quality services to older consumers and their families. One of the top five resolutions passed by the delegates also calls for preserving the advocacy functions under the Act.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

15 May 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

Carol Rasco

Molly Brostrom

RE:

Resolutions Adopted by the 1995 White House Conference on Aging

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging was convened by the President last Wednesday, May 2, and concluded Friday, May 5. By several measures, the Conference was considered a success.

Attached are the 50 resolutions adopted by the delegates on May 5. A few points to note about these resolutions:

- One of the ten delegate-initiated resolutions (meaning drafted at the Conference, not during prior agenda-setting process) expresses **support for the criteria that the President, in his speech before the Conference, said he would use to evaluate Medicare/Medicaid cuts proposed by Congress** (criteria include: context of reform, coverage, choice not coercion, and affordability).
- The **other adopted resolutions are also very consistent with the policy proposals the President has been advocating** -- support for health reform, long term care (the single biggest applause line during the President's speech was after his call for improved home and community-based care options), older volunteers (one of the top ten resolutions calls for supporting and expanding the Corporation for National Service), prevention/health promotion; crime prevention.
- Unlike past White House Conferences on Aging that laid foundations for programs such as Medicare and the Older Americans Act, no new, bold initiatives were proposed by this Conference. However, the resolutions demonstrate strong support for existing programs and for looking ahead to future needs, particularly in long term care.
- The resolution that was the top vote getter called for preserving and protecting Social Security; three of the top ten called for supporting the Older Americans Act; and two of the top ten called for preserving and expanding long term care services.

Please distribute to other staff in your office as appropriate. If you have any questions or need further information, please call Molly Brostrom at 456-5561.

Attachment

Distribution:

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**OFFICIAL
1995 WHITE HOUSE
CONFERENCE ON AGING**

**DRAFT
RESOLUTIONS**

**MAY 2-5, 1995
WASHINGTON, D.C.**