

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. letter	Carol Rasco to Robert Gallegos re thank you (partial) (1 page)	07/11/1996	P6/b(6)
001b. letter	Robert Gallegos to Carol Rasco re denying disability (partial) (1 page)	04/23/1996	P6/b(6)
001c. envelope	Robert Gallegos to Carol Rasco (partial) (1 page)	04/23/1996	P6/b(6)
002a. letter	Carol Rasco to Natasha Bathory re thank you (partial) (1 page)	07/11/1996	P6/b(6)
002b. letter	Natasha Bathory re Eulogy for Social Security (partial) (1 page)	05/02/1996	P6/b(6)
002c. envelope	Natasha Bathory to Carol Rasco (partial) (1 page)	05/01/1996	P6/b(6)
003a. letter	Carol Rasco to Jeanne Lowry re thank you (partial) (1 page)	07/11/1996	P6/b(6)
003b. letter	Jeanne Lowry to Carol Rasco re eligibility for SSI (partial) (1 page)	05/11/1996	P6/b(6)
003c. envelope	Jeanne Lowry to Carol Rasco (partial) (1 page)	05/10/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Molly Brostrom
OA/Box Number: 8397

FOLDER TITLE:

SSI [Supplemental Security Income] DA&A [Drug Addicts and Alcoholics]-CHR
[Carol H. Rasco] Letters

2012-0326-S

kc779

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
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b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Jeff Singer
Health Care for the Homeless
111 Park Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Mr. Singer,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

Beneficiaries who believe they may be eligible for SSDI or SSI because they are disabled as a result of other conditions may appeal and reapply for benefits. It is estimated that as many as three quarters of the 200,000 affected beneficiaries may be found eligible for benefits based on another disability.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) has sent notices to all beneficiaries whose disability determination is based on drug addiction or alcoholism to inform them of the change and to make them aware of their right to reapply. In addition, SSA is working with beneficiary organizations to educate them about the process and to help ensure that eligible beneficiaries are not inadvertently dropped from the rolls.

In order to receive a new SSA disability determination before January 1, 1997, beneficiaries must reapply for benefits before July 28. If you have questions about the process, please feel free to call Diane Garro, Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Legislation at the Social Security Administration (410/965-2386).

I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

*Thanks for your
good letter. Please
continue to communicate
with us.*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Elizabeth Benson Forer
Executive Director
Venice Family Clinic
804 Rose Avenue
Venice, CA 90291

Dear Ms. Forer,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

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I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Karen Rotondo
Director
Health Care for the Homeless, Mercy Hospital
271 Carew Street
P.O. Box 9012
Springfield, MA 01102-9012

Dear Ms. Rotondo,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

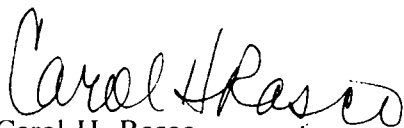
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I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Joanna Selinske
Director
Mayor's Office of Homeless Services
417 E. Fayette St., 12th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Ms. Selinske,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

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I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Sister Barbara Czyrnik
Neighborhood Corporation
701 Chartiers Avenue
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Dear Sister Barbara,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

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I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Sandra A. Thompson
Mercy Hospital
271 Carew Street
P.O. Box 9012
Springfield, MA 01102-9012

Dear Ms. Thompson,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

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I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Shirly Lee
Office for Social Justice
328 West Kellogg Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Ms. Lee,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

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I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy



APR 1 1997

Ms. Carol Rasco, Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco,

You have encouraged me to communicate with you concerning Federal policy development which significantly impact upon homelessness. I now write to you concerning one such development. President Clinton recently signed into law H.R. 3136, the "Contract with America Advancement Act of 1996." This measure denies disability assistance to persons with addictions, and will surely increase homelessness dramatically among a very vulnerable population. The Social Security Administration estimates that at least 40,000 persons with disabilities will lose SSDI and SSI benefits. Without any source of income, and especially given State reductions in General Assistance programs, these women and men will have no choice but to join the ranks of the desperate, homeless persons on our nation's streets.

Congress has unfortunately accepted the canard that persons disabled by addictions use Social Security benefits to "live the life of Reilly." As the representative payee for an alcoholic who currently receives SSI, I can assure you that this is not the case. It was the availability of SSI which permitted me to rent an apartment for my client - the first stable housing he had known in twenty years. The Medicaid which accompanies SSI (and which my client is likely to lose as of 1/1/97) allowed a hernia repair and orthopedic surgery which had been delayed for years. Medicaid also pays for the seizure medication which my client must take daily, and pays for the medical monitoring of my client's health. And my client does not use a single penny of his SSI benefits to drink.

Without SSI, my client is most likely to return to the poor, nasty, brutish, and short life on the streets of Baltimore. He is likely to return to the cycle of begging, ambulances, emergency rooms, and arrests which characterized his life prior to SSI. This serves no one's interests. But it will be multiplied 40,000 times over across the U.S.

I urge you to do everything within your power to mitigate the effects of this law. Homeless health care providers and consumers should participate in developing regulations to implement this measure. Congress must be fully

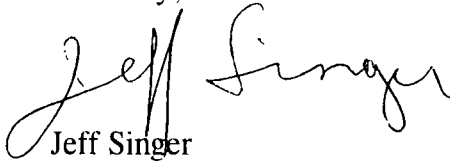
HEALTH CARE
FOR THE
HOMELESS

111 Park Avenue
Baltimore • MD 21201
410 • 837 • 5533
Fax: 410 • 837 • 8020

apprised of its impact. The Social Security Administration should act to assure that reliable representative payees are available to all who require such assistance. The additional \$50 million appropriated for addictions services should be increased drastically in the years ahead. And a real safety net for those who relapse must be available.

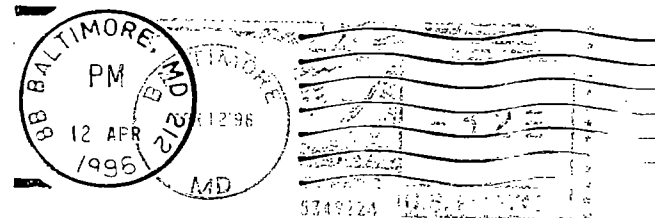
Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I would be happy to provide you with further information and recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Singer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeff" and last name "Singer" clearly distinguishable.

Jeff Singer

Director of Community Relations/Outreach worker



Ms. Carol Rasco, Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Linda Varner
American Red Cross, Greater Milwaukee Chapter
P.O. Box 05800
Milwaukee, WI 53205-0800

Dear Ms. Varner,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

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I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

VENICE FAMILY CLINIC
FAX COVER SHEET
(310) 392-8630
(310) 392-6642 FAX

DATE 4/12/96

TO Carol Rasco

FROM Liz Fox

Domestic Policy Council

FAX # 202 456 2461

☒ URGENT
☐ PER YOUR REQUEST
☐ FOR YOUR REVIEW
☐ FOR YOUR APPROVAL

☐ FOR YOUR INFORMATION
☐ ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW.
☐ PER OUR TELECONF.
☐ PLEASE REPLY ASAP

COMMENTS:

Number of pages including cover sheet 2

601 Rose Ave. Venice, CA 90291
 (310) 392-6630 - Administration
 (310) 392-6642 - Fax



VENICE FAMILY CLINIC

April 12, 1996

Carol Rasco
 Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
 White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
 Washington, D.C. 20500

Ms. Rasco:

The Venice Family Clinic, the largest free clinic in the country, is concerned about the short-sighted nature of H.R. 3136, specifically the provision that amends the Social Security Act to deny disability benefits and Medicaid/Medicare to persons suffering from addictions.

Denying disability assistance to persons with addictions, as H.R. 3136 does, is bad public policy. It will cause health care to be inaccessible for a population which is at risk for infectious diseases such as HIV, hepatitis, and TB. It will swell the numbers of desperate, homeless persons on our Nation's streets.

Denying disability benefits to this population increases the strain on free and community clinics like the Venice Family Clinic. We would like to be involved in developing regulations to implement this law. In this way, more of the people we serve will not be disadvantaged further.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Benson Forer, MPH, MSW
 Executive Director

wp6 misc2/hr3136 lf 4/96



A tax-exempt, non-profit, public benefit organization providing free health care for low-income families since 1970

CLINIC STAFF

Elizabeth Benson Forer, Executive Dir.
 Michael J. Schuchman, M.D., M.P.H., Chief of Clinic
 Jeffrey G. Glick, M.D., M.P.H., Director of Clinic

Karen Adler
 Martin Anderson, M.D.
 James Blakeley, III
 Elizabeth Bruck

Kathleen Connell
 Liddle John Dill
 Adolf Dulian
 Ray Eichen

Sheila Goldberg
 Nathalie Kunin
 Barbara A. Levey, M.D.
 Karen S. Quinn, Ph.D.
 Neil Levine

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 L. Mark Waxman, Esq.
 Gloria Weinstein

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: ~~CHR~~

① Molly draft short response

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: for CHR's signature

Draft response for CHR by: by 4/26

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:



APR 16 1996

MERCY HOSPITAL

271 Carew Street
P.O. Box 9012
Springfield, MA 01102-9012
(413) 748-9000

*A member of the Sisters
of Providence Health System*

April 10, 1996

Ms. Carol Rasco
Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco:

H.R. 3136 is an unfair and short-sighted policy. It denies assistance to persons with addictions. It will decrease accessibility to health care to an already at-risk population with high incidence of HIV, hepatitis and TB. It will without doubt increase the numbers of homeless on our streets.

Homeless health care providers, as well as consumers, should be included in developing regulations to implement this law. Through the Social Security Administration Act, we suggest that reliable representative payees are available to those who need representatives. The \$50 million Supplemental Funding for Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment programs included in H.R. 3136 could be used to address this problem.

Please feel free to have your staff contact me if I can provide any additional insight into the effects of this policy.

Sincerely,

Karen Rotondo, Director
Health Care for the Homeless
Mercy Hospital

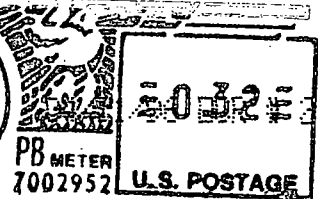
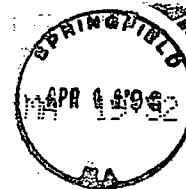
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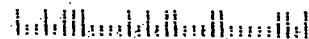
MERCY HOSPITAL

P.O. Box 9012
Springfield, MA 01102-9012

011 SPFLD.



Ms. Carol Rasco
Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500



THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Diana Molly

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by:

Send
response

Draft response for CHR by:

please

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

-Σ

Please advise by:

Let's discuss:

For your information:

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☐ Accept

☐ Pending

☐ Regret

Designee to attend:

Remarks:

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[001a]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Robert Gallagos

P6/(b)(6)

Seattle, WA 98144

Dear Mr. Gallagos,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

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I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

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- b(9)** Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

[0016]

APR 26 1996

April 23, 1996

Ms. Carol Rasco
Chief of Domestic Policy Council
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco:

Denying disability assistance to persons with addictions, as H.R. 3136 does, is bad public policy. It will cause health care to be inaccessible for a population which is at risk for many dangerous conditions, including infectious diseases such as **HIV, HEPATITIS, AND TB**. It will swell the numbers of desperate, homeless persons on our nation's streets. And it will impair the ability of health care and homeless service providers to restore tens of thousands of Americans to lives of dignity. We urge that homeless health care providers and consumers participate in developing regulations to implement this law, and that Congress be fully apprised of its impact. We further suggest that the Social Security Administration act to assure that reliable representative payees are available to all who require such assistance.

Sincerely



Robert Gallagos

P6/(b)(6)

Seattle, WA. 98144

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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001c. envelope	Robert Gallegos to Carol Rasco (partial) (1 page)	04/23/1996	P6/b(6)
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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Molly Brostrom
OA/Box Number: 8397

FOLDER TITLE:

SSI [Supplemental Security Income] DA&A [Drug Addicts and Alcoholics]-CHR
[Carol H. Rasco] Letters

2012-0326-S

kc779

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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[001c]

Robert Z. Gallegos

P6/(b)(6)

P6/(b)(6)

Seattle, WA, 98144



Carol Rasco
Chief of Domestic Policy Council
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500



THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Molly

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: _____

*Send response,
Thanks*

MAY - 9 1996

CITY OF BALTIMORE

KURT L. SCHMOKE, Mayor



MAYOR'S OFFICE OF HOMELESS SERVICES

417 E. Fayette Street, 12th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

May 7, 1996

Ms. Carol Rasco
Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco:

I write to express our grave concern regarding the increase in homelessness that will result from HR 3136. The provision of the law that will deny disability benefits and Medicaid/Medicare to persons suffering from addictions will significantly increase homelessness in our nation.

Research confirms that 40% of Baltimore City's homeless citizens have histories of substance abuse. Denying disability assistance to persons with addictions is bad public policy. It will cause health care to be inaccessible for a population which is at risk for many dangerous conditions, including infectious diseases such as HIV, hepatitis, and TB. It will swell the numbers of desperate, homeless persons in our communities. It will impair the ability of health care and homeless service providers to restore tens of thousands of Americans to lives of dignity.

We urge that former consumers and individuals involved in serving the homeless participate in the development of regulations to implement this law. Their expertise and feedback will minimize the negative impact of this Act.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

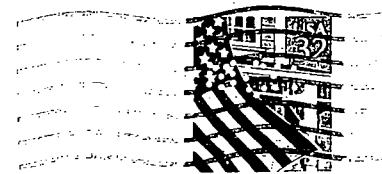
Sincerely,


Joanne Selinske
Director

JS:gs



417 E. Fayette Street, Room 1211
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

 Printed on recycled paper with environmentally friendly soy based ink.

Ms. Carol Rasco
Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

2025-0005 01



THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Molly

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: none of

Draft response for CHR by: the same,

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

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: _____



MAY 24 1996

701 Chartiers Avenue
McKees Rocks, Pa. 15136
771-6460

NEIGHBORHOOD CORPORATION

COMMUNITY
CENTER

FAMILY HEALTH
CENTER

FAMILY DENTAL
CENTER
771-1839

POSITIVE PARENTING
PROGRAM

LEARNING CENTER
331-6288

ELDERLY &
HANDICAPPED
TRANSPORTATION
771-6813

SENIOR CITIZEN
SERVICES & HI RISE

FOOD SERVICES

THRIFT SHOP

NEIGHBORHOOD
CREDIT UNION

May 21, 1996

Dear Mrs. Roser:

I am writing to express my concern. Denying disability assistance to persons with addictions as H.R. 3136 does, is bad policy. It will cause health care to be inaccessible for a population which is at risk for many dangerous conditions. And it will impair the ability of health care and homeless service providers to restore tens of thousands of Americans to levels of dignity.

We urge that homeless health care providers and consumers participate in developing regulations to implement this law, and that Congress be fully apprised of its impact. I would suggest that the Social Security Administration act to assure that reliable representative payees are available to all who require such assistance. The \$50 million Supplemental Funding for Alcohol and Substance Abuse treatment programs included in H.R. 3136 could be used to address this problem.

I ask that you do whatever is possible to assure that persons will be helped with addiction problems.

Sincerely,
Sister Barbara Czyniak

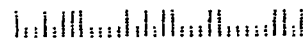


NEIGHBORHOOD CORPORATION

701 Chartiers Avenue
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

RCVD USPS 152 05/22/96 19:54 ISS SB

Carol Raus
Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500



THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Molly

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: _____



MAY 24 1996

MERCY HOSPITAL

271 Carew Street
P.O. Box 9012
Springfield, MA 01102-9012
(413) 748-9000

*A member of the Sisters
of Providence Health System*

May 20, 1996

Ms. Carol Rasco
Chief of Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco:

I work for Health Care for the Homeless out of Mercy Hospital in Springfield, Ma. I'm writing you in regard to Policy HR 3136. Denying disability assistance to individuals with alcohol and substance abuse problems will make health care inaccessible to them. This population is at risk for many infectious diseases, including hepatitis, HIV, and TB. It will increase the number of homeless individuals on our city streets and impair the ability of health care and homeless service providers to help these individuals live out their lives with dignity.

I do feel however, that individuals with a primary diagnosis of alcohol or substance abuse must have a representative payee assigned to them.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Sandra A. Thompson RN

Sandra A. Thompson, R.N.
Health Care for the Homeless
Mercy Hospital

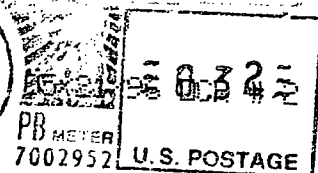
780



S. Thompson RN
MERCY HOSPITAL

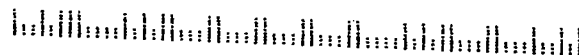
P.O. Box 9012
Springfield, MA 01102-9012

011 SPFLD, MA MAY 2 1986



Ms. Carol Rasco
Chief of Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

20500-0000 01



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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002a. letter	Carol Rasco to Natasha Bathory re thank you (partial) (1 page)	07/11/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Molly Brostrom
OA/Box Number: 8397

FOLDER TITLE:

SSI [Supplemental Security Income] DA&A [Drug Addicts and Alcoholics]-CHR
[Carol H. Rasco] Letters

2012-0326-S

kc779

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

[002a]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Natasha Bathory

P6/(b)(6)

Baltimore, MD 21212

Dear Ms. Bathory,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

Beneficiaries who believe they may be eligible for SSDI or SSI because they are disabled as a result of other conditions may appeal and reapply for benefits. It is estimated that as many as three quarters of the 200,000 affected beneficiaries may be found eligible for benefits based on another disability.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) has sent notices to all beneficiaries whose disability determination is based on drug addiction or alcoholism to inform them of the change and to make them aware of their right to reapply. In addition, SSA is working with beneficiary organizations to educate them about the process and to help ensure that eligible beneficiaries are not inadvertently dropped from the rolls.

In order to receive a new SSA disability determination before January 1, 1997, beneficiaries must reapply for benefits before July 28. If you have questions about the process, please feel free to call Diane Garro, Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Legislation at the Social Security Administration (410/965-2386).

I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002b. letter	Natasha Bathory re Eulogy for Social Security (partial) (1 page)	05/02/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Molly Brostrom
OA/Box Number: 8397

FOLDER TITLE:

SSI [Supplemental Security Income] DA&A [Drug Addicts and Alcoholics]-CHR
[Carol H. Rasco] Letters

2012-0326-S

kc779

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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MAY 2 - 1996

[002b]
Page 1

EULOGY FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

The lead article for Health Care For The Homeless's newsletter, The Mobilizer of 4-8-96, (Disabling Social Security), re. President Clinton's signing of Bill H.C. 3136, brought several ambivalent thoughts. One was about the forbearance of your language, which was definitely to be acknowledged, if not praised. Let's "Begin at the Beginning", with the title. Gentlefolk please! Be real, not nice! Bill H.C. 3136 didn't disable Social Security. That was done 50 years ago. H.C. 3136 was merely it's Euthanasia permit! It simply gave Legal Permission for an assisted suicide.

This is obvious when dealing with, I quote, "Persons whose addictions contribute to their eligibility for S.S.D.I./S.S.I., benefits", This statement includes everyone with an addiction! The disease of Addiction is second only Cancer in it's pain and tenacity. People don't become addicts because it's the 'fun thing to do'. Even those who should be classed as abusers as opposed to hard-core addicts, don't abuse the Drug of Choice for this reason. They all do it because they're not having any fun. This same behaviour continues up the intensity scale. The more serious the addiction the more serious the wrong the Addict is trying to treat. There will be no one left on the S.S.D.I./S.S.I. rolls, if this applies.

This part of the Bill doesn't even mention the ~~the~~ dual diagnosed those whose Axis I is Mental Illness, not connected with substance abuse. But they are involved and they present an entirely new can of worms for the proponents of this Bill to use for fish bait. Worm such as the Addict's Drug of Choice. Yes, they all have one. Are there still people in this country who are so

EULOGY FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

Naive they think Herion, Cocaine and Crack, easy and cheap as it is to obtain are the only street drugs? My poor innocents! May the scales never fall from your eyes, or ears. The shock would kill you! Don't go into your local open air drug market, your City does have at least 1, from 4 to 6 is average. But don't worry about it. Since you're only expecting to find Herion and cocaine, you probably won't even know where you are. One sign of recognition for you will be when you think you're hearing an utterly alien language. Odd words such as Zanex, Thorazine, Elavil, Haldol,, Resperidol and the reigning King of the marker, Klonipin.

These drugs, along with the long-time veterans like Prozac, Valium, and Ritulin are the backbone of the illegal trade on our streets. But they are also the centralecore of Drug Treatment Therapy, for patients who are not addicts, and who with the help of these medications are able to lead normal lives.

Now Thalidomidide has returned. The powerful tranquilizer that was out lawed in the 1950's because of never fail side-effect of infants born without arm, legs, sometimes even heads to were given the drug during pregnancy, is making a come-back as a very successful treatment for certain AIDS related syndroms, and is certain to find it's way to the street market soon.

If you're one of the p~~o~~scribe to the above theory, you're probably also deluded into the idea that the mentally ill are at least slightly dense if not actually stupid. If you're personally acquainted with someone with a Mental Illness he/she is is probable the one who lulled you into this. It's one of this group's favorite gambits. PLEASE WAKE UP AT ONCE. They are, on the contrary, of higher ~~th~~an average I.Q., well educated, and informed (with the probable exception of their own personal delusion) perceptive, very street savvy and as manipulative as Mephistopheles! Bill H.C.3136 is due to go into effect 1-1-97, by 2-1-97 most of the mentally ill will have figured out supplement their incomes by turning at least part of their

EULOGY FOR SOCIAL SECURITY.

legitimately gotten Rx's into cash, thus significantly increasing all the other Mayhem this Bill is going to cause.

Bill H.C.3136 language goes on to get even better (well more interesting anyway). Again, I quote, "Persons found eligible for SSS.D.I./S.S.I. with respect to conditions not related to....Who are also addicted to Drugs and Alcohol are ~~r~~equired to have a Representative Payee if the Commissioner of Social Security determines that it would serve the interest of the individual!!!! Which 'individual' does the Commissioner hope to serve? The list of recipients of S.S.D.I./S.S.I. who live in \$100.00 a month hovels, 6th rate Nursing Homes or on the streets, and eat stale, lumpy gruel, junk food, or garbage from the cans, while their Representative Payees frolic in their \$800.00 and up, apartment complexes and dine on Broiled Salmon and Caviar are legion if seldom legends, and have given dedicated Social Workers and Care Providers ulcers and nightmares for decades.

But the priorities most clearly and horribly misplaced is the matter of the Fifty-Thousand dollar endowment for 'Addiction Treatment' versus the Three Billion dollars assigned for "case review".. Shouldn't the figures been reversed? Or, if that would have been too realistical shouldn't Treatment been given at least One pathetic Billion? 'Ladies' are n't supposed to know language sleazy enough to address this issue and couldn't get it into print in a respectable publication if so.

As to the question of Addicted Clients being referred to the "State Authorized Treatment Service" in Maryland we can only hang our heads in shame. Since the abolishment of Medical Assistance at the State level in 1994, we have had no Addiction Treatment, authorized or otherwise.

The only thing left to think about is the funeral. What should be the plan? Should we send flowers and have a huge wake and public viewing? Will contributions to 'Favorite Charities Be suggested/ If so I'm sure the suggested Charities won't be the campaigns of the proponents of this Bill. Or do we make very quiet Sympathy Calls leaving after the obligatory 15 minutes, hoping *no one has had the bad taste to notice the demise?*

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002c. envelope	Natasha Bathory to Carol Rasco (partial) (1 page)	05/01/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Molly Brostrom
OA/Box Number: 8397

FOLDER TITLE:

SSI [Supplemental Security Income] DA&A [Drug Addicts and Alcoholics]-CHR
[Carol H. Rasco] Letters

2012-0326-S
kc779

RESTRICTION CODES

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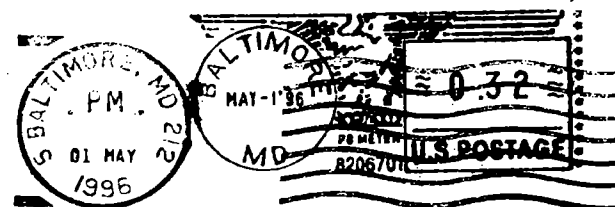
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[002c]

Natasha Rathory
P6(b)(6)
Baltimore, MD 21212



Ms. Carol Rasco, Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500



THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Molly

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: _____

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Schedule ? :

☐ Accept

☐ Pending

☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
003a. letter	Carol Rasco to Jeanne Lowry re thank you (partial) (1 page)	07/11/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Molly Brostrom
OA/Box Number: 8397

FOLDER TITLE:

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[Carol H. Rasco] Letters

2012-0326-S

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[003a]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 11, 1996

Jeanne M. Lowry

P6/(b)(6)

Milwaukee, WI 53228

Dear Ms. Lowry,

Thank you for writing to me about the recently enacted changes in eligibility for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

As a result of legislation passed this March, people will no longer be eligible to qualify for benefits based solely on drug addiction or alcoholism.

Beneficiaries who believe they may be eligible for SSDI or SSI because they are disabled as a result of other conditions may appeal and reapply for benefits. It is estimated that as many as three quarters of the 200,000 affected beneficiaries may be found eligible for benefits based on another disability.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) has sent notices to all beneficiaries whose disability determination is based on drug addiction or alcoholism to inform them of the change and to make them aware of their right to reapply. In addition, SSA is working with beneficiary organizations to educate them about the process and to help ensure that eligible beneficiaries are not inadvertently dropped from the rolls.

In order to receive a new SSA disability determination before January 1, 1997, beneficiaries must reapply for benefits before July 28. If you have questions about the process, please feel free to call Diane Garro, Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Legislation at the Social Security Administration (410/965-2386).

I appreciate hearing your perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Rasco

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
003b. letter	Jeanne Lowry to Carol Rasco re eligibility for SSI (partial) (1 page)	05/11/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Molly Brostrom
OA/Box Number: 8397

FOLDER TITLE:

SSI [Supplemental Security Income] DA&A [Drug Addicts and Alcoholics]-CHR
[Carol H. Rasco] Letters

2012-0326-S

kc779

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

[003b]

MAY 14 1996

P6/(b)(6)

Milwaukee, WI 53228

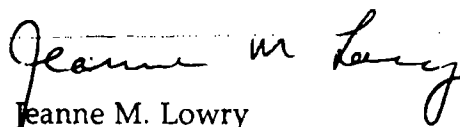
Mr. Carl Rasco,
Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington DC 20500
May 11, 1996

Dear Mr. Rasco,

I am a Registered Nurse working with homeless people for the last seven years. The recent exclusion of people with addictive disorders from eligibility for SSI & SSOI, as H.R. 3136, I strongly believe to be shortsighted policy. It will cause health care to be inaccessible for a population at risk for many dangerous conditions, including infectious diseases like HIV, TB, and hepatitis. Not only will it likely swell the numbers of desperate homeless people on the streets, but it impairs the ability of health providers like myself to work for a restoration of dignity and wholeness to many needy people's lives.

Please allow homeless health providers and consumers to participate in developing the regulations to implement this law. Also I suggest the ~~the~~ Social Security Administration ought to act to assure that reliable payees are available to all who require such assistance. The \$50 million Supplemental Funding for Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment programs included in H.R.3136 could be used to address these problems. Please give this your sympathetic attention.

sincerely,


Jeanne M. Lowry

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
003c. envelope	Jeanne Lowry to Carol Rasco (partial) (1 page)	05/10/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Molly Brostrom
OA/Box Number: 8397

FOLDER TITLE:

SSI [Supplemental Security Income] DA&A [Drug Addicts and Alcoholics]-CHR
[Carol H. Rasco] Letters

2012-0326-S

kc779

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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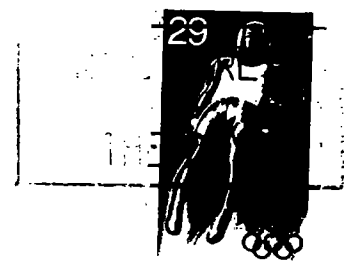
[003c]

Lowry

P6/(b)(6)

Milw WI 53228

1



Mr. Carl Rasco
Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington D.C. 20500
|||||

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Molly

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: _____

APR 25 1996



Greater Milwaukee Chapter
P.O. Box 05800
Milwaukee, WI 53205-0800
(414) 342-8680
Fax: (414) 933-5296

April 22, 1996

Carol Rasco
Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco:

I am a registered nurse working with the Homeless Outreach Nursing Center. I believe denying disability assistance to persons with addictions, as H.R. 3136 does, is bad public policy. It will cause health care to be inaccessible for a population which is at risk for many dangerous conditions, including infectious diseases such as HIV, hepatitis, and TB. It will swell the numbers of desperate, homeless persons on our nation's streets. And it will impair the ability of health care and homeless service providers to restore tens of thousands of Americans to lives of dignity. I urge that homeless health care providers and consumers participate in developing regulations to implement this law, and that Congress be fully apprised of its impact. I further suggest that the Social Security Administration act to assure that reliable representative payees are available to all who require such assistance. The \$50 million Supplemental Funding for Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment programs included in H.R. 3136 could be used to address this problem.

Sincerely,

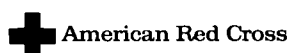
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda Varner".

Linda Varner, RN

Kettle Moraine Regional Office
525 North Main Street, Room 207
P. O. Box 125
Bartford, WI 53027-0125
(414) 673-4400
Fax: (414) 673-4401

Ozaukee Regional Office
1042 South Spring Street
Port Washington, WI 53074-2455
(414) 284-4091 or (414) 375-1888
Fax: (414) 284-1944

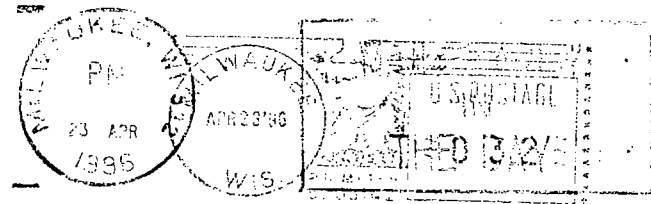
Waukesha Regional Office
2220 Silvernail Road
P. O. Box 1083
Waukesha, WI 53187-1083
(414) 542-6672
Fax: (414) 542-6960



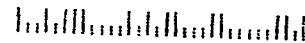
Partners in community service



Greater Milwaukee Chapter
P.O. Box 05800
Milwaukee, WI 53205-0800



Ms Carol Rasco
Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500



THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF ~~DOMESTIC~~ POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: _____

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 ? :

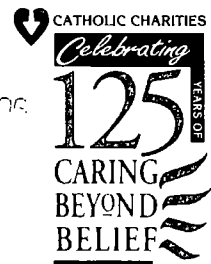
☐ Accept

☐ Pending

☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____



May 9, 1996

**Office for
Social Justice**

328 West Kellogg Boulevard
Saint Paul
MN 55102
612/291-4477
FAX: 290-1628

Ronald T. Krietemeyer
Administrator

Carol Rasco
Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco,

I am writing to you about the SSI and SSDI recipients who will be cut off because of H.R. 3136's short-sighted nature.

Denying disability assistance to persons with addictions, as H.R. 3136 does, is bad public policy. It will cause health care to be inaccessible for a population which is at risk for many dangerous conditions, including infectious diseases such as HIV, hepatitis, and TB. It will swell the numbers of desperate, homeless persons on our nation's streets.

Furthermore, H.R. 3136 will impair the ability of health care and homeless service providers to restore tens of thousands of Americans to lives of dignity. I urge that homeless health care providers and consumers participate in developing regulations to implement this law, and that Congress be fully apprised of its impact.

I further suggest that the Social Security Administration act to assure that reliable representative payees are available to all who require assistance. The \$50 million Supplemental Funding for Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment programs included in H.R. 3136 could be used to address this problem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shirly Lee".

Shirly Lee
Public Policy Department

*Supported through private
contributions, United Way,
and Annual Catholic Appeal.
Accredited by Council on
Accreditation of Services for
Families and Children. An
Equal Opportunity Employer
and Service Provider.*

OFFICE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

328 West Kellogg Boulevard • St. Paul, MN 55102



Ms. Carol Rasco
Chief of the Domestic Policy Council
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

