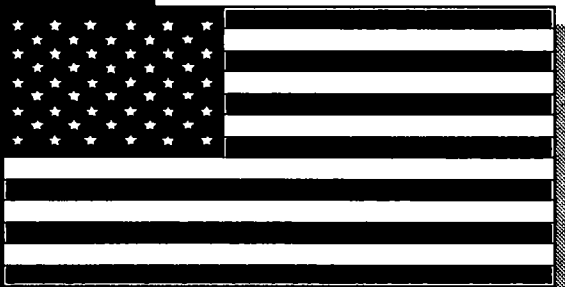


Preparing America For The 21st Century

*Background on President
Clinton's Agenda for the Nation
State of the Union Address
January 27, 1998*



PREPARING AMERICA FOR THE 21st CENTURY

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ECONOMY THAT OFFERS OPPORTUNITY

Entitlement Reform

- Social Security

Education

- Smaller Classes with Qualified Teachers to Improve Reading in Grades 1-3
- Modern School Buildings to Improve Student Learning
- Education Opportunity Zones: Helping Students in Poor Communities Reach High Standards
- Expanding Access to Safe After-School Care
- Mentoring: Early Intervention to Promote College Attendance

Leading the Global Economy

- Community Economic Adjustment Initiative
- Fast Track Trading Authority
- Africa Trade Initiative
- Child Labor

Training

- GI Bill for Workers

A SOCIETY ROOTED IN RESPONSIBILITY

Moving People from Welfare to Work

- Welfare-to-Work Housing Vouchers
- Increasing Child Support Collections
- Falling Welfare Caseloads
- Business Welfare-to-Work Commitments

Health Care

- Consumer Bill of Rights & Genetic Screening Protections
- Providing New Options for Americans Ages 55 to 65 to Access Health Insurance
- 21st Century Research Fund

Tobacco

- Passing Bipartisan Tobacco Legislation

Child Care

- Double the Number of Children Receiving Child Care Subsidies to More than Two Million
- Increase Tax Credits for 3 Million Families
- Provide New Business Tax Credits
- Promote Early Learning
- Provide After-School Care for up to Half a Million Children
- Step Up Enforcement of State Health and Safety Standards

- Facilitate Background Checks on Child Care Providers
- Increase Scholarships for Training for Child Care Providers
- Invest in Research
- Increase Head Start and Double the Number of Children Served by Early Head Start

Crime

- Juvenile Justice Crime Bill
 - Preventing Under 21s from buying guns
 - New Prosecutors and Probation Officers
 - Tough, New Sentences on Drug Dealers
 - Funding to Keep Schools Open Later and Promote Anti-Truancy Initiatives and Curfews

Foreign Policy

- NATO Enlargement
- Securing the Peace in Bosnia
- Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
- Strengthening the Biological Weapons Convention
- U.S. Arrears to the United Nations

A NATION THAT LIVES BY COMMUNITY

Political Reform/Reinventing Government

- Free Television Time
- Enact Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform
- IRS Reform

Community Empowerment

- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit
- Second Round of Empowerment Zones
- "Play-By-the-Rules" Homeownership Proposal
- Homeownership Zones

Environmental Protection

- Climate Change initiative
- Clean Water Initiative
- Food Safety

Civil Rights

- Reforming and Strengthening the EEOC

THE MILLENNIUM PROJECT

Technology

- A Family-Friendly Internet
- Making the Internet a Global Free-Trade Zone
- Cloning

Culture

- Save America's Cultural and Historical Treasures

AN ECONOMY THAT OFFERS OPPORTUNITY

ENTITLEMENT REFORM

Reserve Surplus until Social Security is Reformed

Over the next two years, President Clinton is firmly committed to strengthening Social Security for the 21st century. He therefore proposes that we should not spend any of the projected budget surpluses on anything else until we have reformed Social Security. This proposal, which continues the fiscally responsible policies that have been the hallmark of this Administration, is intended to reserve the surpluses in case they are needed for Social Security reform.

EDUCATION

Small Classes with Qualified Teachers to Improve Reading in Grades 1-3

President Clinton is proposing a \$12.4 billion initiative over 7 years (\$7.3 billion over 5 years) to help local schools provide small classes with qualified teachers in the early grades. This initiative will help ensure that every child receives personal attention, learns to read independently, and gets a solid foundation for further learning. The new initiative will reduce class size from a nationwide average of 22 in grades 1-3 to an average of 18, providing funds to help local school districts hire an additional 100,000 well-prepared teachers. The initiative will also provide funds to states and local school districts to test new teachers, develop more rigorous teacher testing and certification requirements, and train teachers in effective reading instruction practices. School districts will be accountable for demonstrating gains in reading achievement. These steps will help ensure that first through third grade students are receiving high-quality reading instruction in smaller classes from competent teachers.

Modern School Buildings to Improve Student Learning

For students to learn, schools must be well-equipped and be able to accommodate smaller class sizes. To address these and other critical needs, President Clinton is proposing federal tax credits to pay interest on nearly \$22 billion in bonds to build and renovate public schools. This initiative provides more than double the assistance of the Administration's earlier school construction proposal, which covered half the interest on an estimated \$20 billion in bonds. The tax credits will cost the Treasury \$5 billion over 5 years, and more than \$10 billion over ten years. Of the \$22 billion in bond authority, nearly \$20 billion for a new School Modernization Bonds. Half of this bond authority will be allocated to the 100 school districts with the largest number of low-income children, and the other half will be allocated to the states.

Education Opportunity Zones: Helping Students in Poor Communities Reach High Standards

This initiative will strengthen public schools and help students master the basic and advanced skills where the need is greatest: in high-poverty urban and rural communities where low expectations, too many poorly prepared teachers, and overwhelmed school systems create significant barriers to high achievement. The Education Department will select approximately fifty high-poverty urban and rural school districts with: (1) a demonstrated commitment to use high standards and tests as tools to identify and provide help to students, teachers and schools who need it; (2) a strategy to prevent students from falling behind by ensuring quality teaching, challenging curricula, and extended learning time; (3) programs to end social promotion and turn around failing schools; and (4) evidence of improved student achievement. Added investments in these communities will accelerate their progress and provide models of successful, standards-based reform for the nation. The President's initiative will invest \$200 million in FY99, and \$1.5 billion over 5 years, in raising achievement and sharing lessons learned with school districts around the country.

Early Intervention to Promote College Attendance

President Clinton will soon announce a long-term effort to bring college opportunity to children in high-poverty areas by providing their families with early information about financial aid and appropriate academic preparation, as well as mentoring and other support services to help the children stay on track through high school graduation and into college.

LEADING THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Fast Track

America needs fast track to continue to create higher-paying jobs for more Americans. Without it, America's role as the largest exporter in the world will be put in jeopardy. And with new markets opening around the world, it is more important than ever to give the President traditional trade authority to break down trade barriers that put American products made by American workers at a disadvantage. Fast track legislation is essentially an agreement between Congress and the president on how Congress will consider United States trade agreements negotiated by the President. As part of that deal, the President agrees to extensively consult and coordinate with Congress throughout trade negotiations. In return, Congress votes on legislation implementing trade deals within a fixed period of time, on a up or down basis, and with no amendments. Every president since 1974 has enjoyed fast track authority.

Africa Trade Initiative

We are working with members from both parties to secure swift passage of legislation that will bring the promise of 21st century prosperity to African nations that are prepared to undertake the hard work of reform. This legislation will introduce a new era of prosperity and partnership between African reformers and the United States, expanding trade opportunities for African and American workers, farmers and companies, and hope and opportunity for our children. This legislation will encourage African nations to undertake sound growth policies by expanding trade and encouraging investment.

Child Labor

This initiative will make the U.S. a world leader in the fight to reduce child labor. The initiative focuses on reducing the most intolerable forms on child labor -- "slavery" through forced or indentured labor, work by very young children, and work in dangerous conditions -- by increasing the nation's contribution to the International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC) from \$3 million to \$30 million. The proposal also calls for additional agents for the U.S. Customs Service to enforce the ban on the importation of goods made with forced or indentured child labor, with a particular focus on rugs from South Asia. On the domestic front, the proposal includes a \$50 million increase in migrant education to serve 100,000 more children of migrant farm workers and a \$9 million increase in the Department of Labor budget to enforce U.S. child labor laws -- especially in the agricultural sector.

Community and Economic Adjustment Initiative

To help communities compete in a global economy, the Community and Economic Adjustment Initiative will borrow a page from the Administration's successful adjustment effort for base closure communities. Modeled after the Defense Department's highly respected Office of Economic Adjustment, the Office of Community and Economic Adjustment (OCEA) will provide grants and other assistance to communities to develop an economic adjustment strategy. The President will propose \$50 million in additional community adjustment assistance as part of the Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration's (EDA) budget. This will allow us to do more for communities that have suffered through sudden and severe economic dislocation, such as plant closings. As OEA has done for base closure communities, OCEA will closely with the Departments of Labor, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, and other federal agencies to make communities aware of all available federal resources and to provide a coordinated Administration response.

TRAINING

Reform of the Federal Job Training System

The President renewed his call for Congressional action to reform the job training system. In his 1995 G.I. Bill for America's Workers, he called for individual empowerment through skills grants, streamlining through One Stop Career Centers, and better results through tough performance standards. The House has passed legislation based on his vision. The Workforce Investment Partnership Act has bipartisan support and is under consideration in the Senate.

A SOCIETY ROOTED IN RESPONSIBILITY

MOVING PEOPLE FROM WELFARE TO WORK

Welfare to Work Housing Vouchers

The President's budget will provide \$283 million in FY99 for 50,000 new housing vouchers for welfare recipients who need housing assistance to get or keep a job. Families could use these housing vouchers to move closer to a new job, to reduce a long commute, or to secure more stable housing to eliminate emergencies that keep them from getting to work every day on time. These vouchers, awarded to communities on a competitive basis, will give people on welfare a new tool to make the transition to a job and succeed in the work place. The proposal will complement the President's \$100 million a year welfare to work transportation plan, part of his NEXTEA bill, which will help welfare recipients make their daily commutes.

Increasing Child Support Collections

President Clinton's crackdown on deadbeat parents is paying off: child support collections rose to a record \$13 billion in 1997, an increase of 63 percent since 1992. In the State of the Union, the President set a goal of increasing collections to \$20 billion by the year 2000.

Falling Welfare Caseloads

The President announced that we have met -- two years ahead of schedule -- the challenge he made in last year's State of the Union to move two million more Americans off of welfare by the year 2000. New caseload numbers show that welfare caseloads fell by 4.3 million since President Clinton took office, two million more than the 2.25 million decline he announced last year. The new figures, from September 1997, show 9.8 million Americans on welfare, down from 14.1 million in January 1993 -- a drop of 30 percent.

Business Welfare to Work Commitments

In his State of the Union address last year, the President challenged the business community to create jobs so that people can move from welfare to work. Today, nearly 3,000 companies have accepted the President's challenge and joined a new national effort, called the Welfare to Work Partnership, which was launched at the White House in May. Now, the President has challenged thousands more companies to join the Partnership to give even more people a chance to work their way off welfare.

HEALTH CARE

Protecting Patients Through a Consumer Bill of Rights and Genetic Screening Protections

The President called on Congress to pass federally enforceable consumer health care protections before it adjourns this fall. This Health Care Bill of Rights should contain a range of protections, including guaranteed access to needed health care specialists to ensure that patients are provided appropriate high quality care, access to emergency room services when and where the need arises, an assurance that medical records are confidential, and access to a meaningful internal and external appeals process for consumers to resolve their differences with their health plans and health care providers. The nation's health care system has changed dramatically, with more than 100 million Americans now in managed care plans. This legislation will ensure that whether Americans have traditional health insurance or managed care, they are assured quality care. And to ensure that new advances in genetics are used to improve health rather than to discriminate, the President has called for legislation prohibiting the use of genetic screening to discriminate in health insurance and employment.

Creating a Historic "21st Century Research Fund"

With Unprecedented Increases in Biomedical Research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Scientists are on the cusp of important new breakthroughs in biomedical research, which could revolutionize the way medical experts understand, treat, and prevent some of our most devastating diseases. To promote this progress, the President's budget contains a historic upfront investment in biomedical research -- a 1.15 billion increase in FY 1999 -- and proposes an increase in NIH funding of more than 50 percent over the next five years. Under the President's proposal, the NIH will devote over \$20 billion to biomedical research in 2003.

Providing New Options for Americans Ages 55 to 65 to Obtain Health Insurance, Including Buying Into Medicare

Americans ages 55 to 65 are one of the most difficult-to-insure populations: they have less access to and a greater risk of losing employer-based health insurance; and they are twice as likely to have health problems as the population generally. The President's proposal gives this vulnerable population three new ways to gain access to health insurance by: (1) allowing Americans ages 62 to 65 to buy into Medicare, through a premium that ensures that this policy is self-financed; (2) assisting vulnerable displaced workers 55 and over by offering those who have involuntarily lost their jobs and health care coverage a similar Medicare buy-in option; and (3) giving Americans 55 and over who have lost their retiree benefits access to their former employers' health insurance.

TOBACCO

Passing Comprehensive Bipartisan Tobacco Legislation That Reduces Teen Smoking and Changes the Way Tobacco Companies Do Business

Every day 3,000 young people start smoking and 1,000 of them will die prematurely from a tobacco-related disease. The President called on Congress to pass comprehensive national bipartisan legislation that includes five key principles: (1) it must mandate the development of a comprehensive plan to reduce teen smoking, including raising the cost of cigarettes by \$1.50 per pack over the next 10 years as necessary to meet youth smoking targets; (2) it must affirm the FDA's full authority to regulate tobacco products; (3) it must include measures to hold tobacco companies accountable, especially for marketing products to children; (4) it must include concrete measures to improve public health, from investing in research to reducing second-hand smoke to expanding smoking cessation; and (5) it must protect the financial well-being of tobacco farmers and their communities from the loss of income caused by our efforts to reduce smoking.

CHILD CARE INITIATIVE

Double the Number of Children Receiving Child Care Subsidies to More than Two Million

The President proposed to expand the Child Care and Development Block Grant to help working families struggling to meet the costs of child care. This block grant is the primary federal subsidy program to pay for child care, enabling low-income parents to work. Funds are distributed by formula to the states to operate direct child care subsidy programs, as well as to improve the quality and availability of care. The President's initiative will more than double the number of children served from the one million served in FY 95 (the latest year for which data are available). The President's budget will increase funding for the block grant by \$7.5 billion (plus a state match) over five years, which will enable states to provide subsidies for more than two million children by 2003.

Increase Tax Credits for Child Care for Three Million Working Families

The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit provides tax relief to taxpayers who pay for the care of a child under 13 or a disabled dependent or spouse in order to work. The credit is equal to a percentage of the taxpayer's employment-related expenditures for child or dependent care, with the amount of the credit depending on the taxpayer's income. The President's proposal increases the credit for families earning under \$60,000, providing an additional average tax cut of \$358 for these families and eliminating income tax liability for almost all families with incomes below 200% of poverty (\$35,000 for a family of four) that claim the maximum allowable child care expenses. The President's budget will include \$5.2 billion over five years to expand the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit for three million working families.

Provide New Business Tax Credits

The child care initiative includes a tax credit to businesses that provide child care services for their employees, by building or expanding child care facilities, operating existing facilities, training child care workers, or providing child care resources and referral services. The credit covers 25% of qualified costs, but may not exceed \$150,000 per year. The President's budget will include approximately \$500 million over five years for these tax credits.

Promote Early Learning

Research shows that children's experiences in the earliest years are critical to their development and future success. The President's proposed Early Learning Fund provides challenge grants to communities (distributed by states) to improve early learning and the quality and safety of child care for children ages zero to five. Funds may be used for the following activities: providing basic training to child care providers (including first aid and CPR); connecting individual child care providers to centers for education and support; assisting child care providers to meet accreditation and licensing requirements; linking child care providers with health professionals, and supporting the inclusion of young children with special needs in quality child care settings; reducing group sizes and child-to-staff ratios; and providing home visits, parent education, and consumer education about child care. The President's Early Learning Fund builds on state initiatives such as North Carolina's Smart Start, which helps North Carolina's children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. The President's budget will include \$3 billion over five years for this fund.

Increase Head Start and Double the Number of Children Served by Early Head Start

Head Start provides early, continuous and comprehensive child development and family support services, preparing children for a lifetime of learning and development. The President's budget will invest an additional \$3.8 billion over five years to reach his goal of serving one million children by 2002, and doubling the number of infants and toddlers in Early Head Start to 80,000.

Step Up Enforcement of State Health and Safety Standards

Building on the military's model child care program, this proposed initiative will fund state efforts to improve licensing systems and enforce child care health and safety standards, including by increasing unannounced inspections of child care settings. The President's budget will include \$500 million over five years for this program.

Facilitate Background Checks on Child Care Providers

On the day of the White House Conference on Child Care, the President transmitted to Congress the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact, which will facilitate effective background checks on child care providers by eliminating state law barriers to sharing criminal history information for non-criminal purposes. Although the vast majority of child care providers are dedicated to the teaching and nurturing of children, one tragedy in child care is too many. Background checks are an important way to ensure that the people watching our children are fit for this responsibility.

Increase Scholarships and Training for Child Care Providers

At the White House Conference on Child Care, the President proposed establishing a Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund to enable states to provide scholarship funds to students working toward a child care credential. Eligible child care workers must commit to remaining in the field for at least one year for each year of assistance received and will earn increased compensation or bonuses when they complete their course work. The President proposed a federal investment of \$250 million over five years, which will support 50,000 scholarships per year. The President is also proposing to expand the Department of Labor's Child Care Apprenticeship Program to fund the training of child care providers.

Invest in Research

Because too little is known about our child care system, the President's budget will increase support for data, research, and evaluation. This research fund will also support a National Center on Child Care Statistics and a child care hotline that parents can call to get information about how to find child care in their communities and how to identify appropriate, quality care for their children. In addition, the research fund will support demonstration projects to test approaches to help new parents who choose to stay home to care for their newborns or newly adopted children. The President's budget will include \$150 million over five years for this fund.

Provides After-School Care for up to Half a Million Children a Year

The President proposes a dramatic expansion of the 21st Century Community Learning Center Program to provide start-up funds (with a local match) to school-community partnerships to establish or expand before- and after-school programs for school-age children. The program increases the supply of after-school care in a cost-effective manner by directing most funds to programs that use public schools and their existing resources, such as computers, gymnasiums, and sports equipment. The program also includes a set-aside to fund programs run by community organizations. The President's budget will request \$800 million of new money for this program, for a total of \$1 billion over five years.

CRIME

Juvenile Crime Strategy

This initiative recognizes the threat juvenile crime poses to our communities and calls on Congress to pass a comprehensive anti-gang and youth violence strategy. The President's proposed legislation targets gangs and violent juveniles by (1) funding for new prosecutors (\$100 million) and probation officers (\$60 million); (2) helping our kids to stay gun- and drug-free by preventing violent juveniles from buying guns when they turn 21; (3) enacting tough new sentences to punish adults who sell drugs to kids and use kids to sell drugs; (4) helping kids to stay in school, off drugs, and out of trouble with new funding to keep schools open later and to promote anti-truancy initiatives and curfews (\$95 million). In addition, the President's Child Care Initiative increases five-fold current funding for Department of Education-sponsored after school programs.

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE WORLD

NATO Enlargement

Europe's stability and America's security are closely linked. The President's call for enlarging the NATO alliance strengthens the alliance's core mission of collective defense and helps meet new threats such as regional instability. Enlargement furthers other US objectives including: Encouraging states in the region to settle border and ethnic disputes with neighbors; strengthen civilian control of their militaries; and increase tolerance for ethnic and religious minorities. NATO's enlargement, combined with the Partnership for Peace program, the NATO-Russia Founding Act and the NATO-Ukraine partnership will help erase the outdated Cold War divisions and build, for the first time, an undivided, democratic, and peaceful Europe.

Securing the Peace in Bosnia

The United States has an abiding interest in peace and stability in Bosnia and a compelling interest in the implementation of the Dayton peace accords. After 46 months of the worst war in Europe since WWII, 24 months of implementing peace have helped put Bosnia on the path to lasting peace and stability. Progress on implementation was made possible because of prudent military support. We can now see the point where civil implementation and peace can be self-sustaining -- but Bosnia's fragile peace still needs the support of American and allied troops when the current NATO mission ends in June. The President still must approve a detailed action plan being prepared by NATO military authorities after a full review of all options. The President will insist that this action plan have the following elements: an achievable mission tied to clear benchmarks, not a deadline; force must be able to protect itself; the U.S. must retain command; European allies must shoulder their full share of responsibility; costs must be manageable; and the plan must have substantial support of the Congress and the American people.

Iraq Weapons of Mass Destruction Program (WMD)

President Clinton made clear that Iraq's efforts to develop nuclear, chemical and biological weapons are unacceptable. U.N. inspectors have done a remarkable job -- destroying more of Iraq's WMD potential than was destroyed during the Gulf War itself. But Saddam is now refusing to allow inspectors to complete their mission. All options are on the table to make sure Iraq does not pursue their WMD program with impunity and threaten the international community.

Biological Weapons

President Clinton announced tonight that the United States would lead the effort to erect stronger international barriers against the proliferation and use of biological weapons. Under this new initiative, the United States will seek to strengthen the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) by requiring nations that have joined the BWC to submit annual declarations about facilities and activities that could be used for Biological weapon purposes and agree to a tough international inspection system including both voluntary and mandatory inspections.

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)

The President's call for Senate ratification of the CTBT will allow America to maintain a safe and reliable nuclear deterrent while constraining the proliferation of nuclear material and technology to rogue states' weapons programs. CTBT will improve America's ability to detect and deter nuclear explosive testing. CTBT's global network of sensors will strengthen America's ability to monitor nuclear explosive testing across the globe, as well as deter any nation from believing it can conduct a nuclear explosive test undetected by the international community.

U.S. Arrears to the United Nations

The President also highlighted the need for prompt action on the payment of U.S. arrears to the United Nations. The failure to pay undermines our ability to reform the U.N. and hinders our leadership of that organization at very time the U.N. is working to prevent Iraq from threatening neighbors and the world with weapons of mass destruction. We also need to give the International Monetary Fund the capacity to help prevent global financial crises. Now, more than ever, our security at home and our interests abroad demand that America meet our international obligations, sharpen the tools to improve the stability of the world economy, and increase our leverage in international organizations.

A NATION THAT LIVES BY COMMUNITY

POLITICAL REFORM/REINVENTING GOVERNMENT

Free Television Time

Spending on congressional campaigns has increased more than three times the rate of inflation in the last decades and spending on television is the primary reason. In 1972, candidates spent \$25 million for political ads; in 1996, they spent \$400 million. In his State of the Union, President Clinton announced that will request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) require broadcasters to give candidates for Federal office free time as a condition of receiving a new, lucrative license for digital television. It is time to update broadcasters' public interest obligations to meet new political and technological realities.

Enact Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform

The President remains committed to the enactment of bipartisan campaign finance reform. He is pleased that the leadership in Congress has agreed to schedule a vote this Spring on the McCain-Feingold and Shays-Meehan reform bills. But a vote on these bills is not enough. In his State of the Union the President challenged Congress to enact real reform this year. Acceptable campaign finance reform legislation must meet five criteria: 1) it must be bipartisan; 2) it must be comprehensive; 3) it must reduce the amount of money that is raised and spent on federal elections; 4) it must help level the playing field between challengers and incumbents; and 5) it cannot favor one party over the other.

IRS Reform

President Clinton is strongly committed to reforming the IRS. This spring the Administration will launch the first of 33 Citizen Advocacy Panels. These new panels will be locally-based, independent boards of citizens established to monitor how local IRS offices treat taxpayers and help taxpayers get their problems solved. These new panels are part of the new era of customer service underway at the IRS. The successful new IRS problem solving days, which have helped thousands of taxpayers get relief, will continue around the country on a monthly basis. Additionally, as of the first of the year, IRS phones are now operating 16 hours a day, six days a week. For the first time, IRS offices will be open Saturday mornings during the tax filing season -- March through mid-April -- to provide taxpayers a convenient opportunity to walk-in and get any questions answered. Also, the IRS expects this year to expand its award-winning Telefile program. This innovative program allowed 4.7 million taxpayers to file their returns with a quick average 10 minute phone call last year.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Low-Income Housing Tax Credit

Since its creation in 1986, the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) has given states tax credits of \$1.25 per capita to allocate to developers of affordable housing. Even though building costs have increased 40 percent in the last decade, the amount of the credit has not been adjusted for inflation. Therefore, President Clinton and Vice-President Gore propose to increase the cap on the LIHTC from \$1.25 per capita to \$1.75 per capita — restoring the value of the credit to its 1986 level. Estimates suggest that the LIHTC currently helps build 80,000-90,000 affordable housing units each year. The President and Vice President's proposal to increase the cap by 40 percent will create an additional 160,000-180,000 new rental housing units for low-income American families over the next five years. This proposal will cost \$1.6 billion over five years.

Empowerment Zones

Building on the Administration's successful first round of Empowerment Zones which has helped spur the creation of jobs and private investment in America's distressed communities, the President's budget includes a request for \$1.7 billion to support flexible grants to 20 new Empowerment Zone designations. The funding will be made available to the designated communities over a 10 year period. The 15 urban designations will be funded at \$100 million each; and the five rural designations will be funded at \$40 million each. The Departments of Housing and Urban Development and Agriculture will announce a competition this Spring that will lead to the designation of the 20 new Empowerment Zones by December 1998.

“Play-by-the-Rules” Homeownership Proposal

The President’s FY99 budget provides funds for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation to start a new initiative to help provide the opportunity of homeownership to responsible families with a perfect rental history. Under this initiative, we will help 10,000 lower-income -- and often minority -- families become homeowners. While the method of helping each family buy their own home will differ, responsible families we will be provided homeownership counseling, flexible assistance for downpayment or closing costs, second mortgage loans for debt reduction, or rehabilitation loans.

Homeownership Zones

The FY99 budget includes funds for Homeownership Zones to be used by communities to reclaim abandoned and distressed neighborhoods through the creation of large-scale developments of owner-occupied single-family homes. Funds could be used for property acquisition, housing construction, housing rehabilitation, demolition, site preparation, homeownership counseling, relocation, housing marketing, activities to ensure fair housing, and other activities essential to homeownership.

ENVIRONMENT

Climate Change Initiative

Following the historic agreement reached in Kyoto in December 1997, and as part of the President’s and Vice President’s ongoing efforts to address climate change, the President is proposing a dramatic new program of tax cuts and R&D aimed at cutting greenhouse gas emissions. The proposed package contains tax cuts to promote energy efficiency and additional research and development spending covering the four major carbon-emitting sectors of the economy (buildings, industry, transportation, and electricity), plus carbon removal and sequestration, Federal facilities, and cross-cutting analyses and research. This package complements the other elements of the Administration’s climate change plan, which include working with industry to develop sector-by-sector initiatives to cut emissions, incorporating energy efficiency goals into Federal procurement and energy use, and restructuring the electricity industry. These efforts strive to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by improving efficiency and reducing costs to the consumer. They provide a solid step on the way to meeting the goals of the Kyoto Agreement.

Clean Water Initiative

This initiative will ease threats to the environment and public health by helping states and communities curb polluted runoff from farms and city streets, reducing exposure to harmful organisms and toxic contaminants in drinking water and fish, and promoting community-based watershed management in partnership with landowners and affected industries. The initiative targets the 40 percent of the nation’s waterways still unsafe for fishing and swimming. It provides substantial new resources to assist states in implementing these programs and to create incentives for farmers to adopt practices that protect water quality.

Food Safety Initiative

The Clinton Administration launched a new food safety initiative last year to put in place new science-based preventive systems to improve the safety of seafood, meat, and poultry and begin work on a new early warning system to help detect and respond to outbreaks of food borne illness. Our budget will seek an even more substantial increase in funding to further enhance food safety. The resources will go to a variety of initiatives, including: giving FDA authority to prevent the importation of produce from countries without safety precautions equivalent to our own; hiring FDA inspectors to improve the safety of fruits and vegetables, both domestic and imported; developing new ways for federal inspectors to detect foodborne illnesses in meat and poultry and determine the source of contamination; improving educational outreach on proper food handling; and further expanding our early warning system and strengthening state surveillance activities for foodborne illnesses.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Reforming and Strengthening the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

This initiative expands the EEOC's ADR program over three years to allow as many as 70 percent of all complainants to choose mediation, rather than the lengthy process of investigation and litigation. In the first year, the EEOC will provide ADR in a projected 16,000 cases -- 20 percent of all incoming cases and double the number currently sent to mediation. In addition, through a combination of increased use of mediation, improved information technology, and an expanded investigative staff, the EEOC will reduce the average time it takes to resolve a private sector complaint from over 9 months to 6 months, and reduce the backlog of cases from 64,000 to 28,000 by the year 2000. The proposal provides \$279 million for the EEOC for FY99 -- \$37 million or 15 percent more than the enacted 1998 budget.

THE MILLENIUM PROJECT

TECHNOLOGY

A Family-Friendly Internet

President Clinton and Vice President Gore support a strategy to protect children and create a safe, educational environment on the Internet that is consistent with our First Amendment values. This strategy includes cracking down on obscenity, child pornography, and online stalking, and encouraging the private sector to develop filtering and blocking technology for parents and teachers that is widely available and effective. This fall, the Administration will join the private sector and non-profit groups to support "Internet Teach-Ins" at schools and libraries, which are designed to increase awareness of safe on-line behavior for children and access to good content

Making the Internet a Global Free-Trade Zone

The Administration is committed to creating an environment in which global electronic commerce can flourish, so that every computer will be a window open to every business, large and small. Over the next several years, Internet commerce could increase to hundreds of billions of dollars per year, boosting U.S. exports and creating new opportunities for small start-up companies. President Clinton has directed the U.S. Trade Representative to work with foreign governments to secure agreement that all products and services delivered across the Internet and all equipment from which the Internet is built -- be free from tariffs.

Cloning

President Clinton has proposed legislation banning the cloning of human beings. The President's legislative proposal prohibits for five years the use of somatic cell nuclear technology to create a human being. The legislation directs the National Bioethics Advisory Commission to report to the President in four and half years on whether to continue the ban. The proposal is carefully worded to ensure that it will not interfere with beneficial biomedical and agricultural activities. In March 1997, the President imposed a ban on the use of federal money for cloning human beings.

Save America's Treasures

Many of our most important cultural treasures -- such as the Star Spangled Banner, the Declaration of Independence, and the Bill of Rights -- are seriously at risk. "Save America's Treasures" is a three year, \$150 million initiative that will help stimulate support for the Nation's most important preservation priorities. The funds will be administered by the Department of Interior under the authority of the National Historic Preservation Act. Half of the money will support preservation projects identified at the national level -- the other half will go to support state and local priorities.

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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Cloning - EW

January 20, 1998, Tuesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 12; Column 5; National Desk

LENGTH: 384 words

HEADLINE: F.D.A. Is Prepared to Block Unapproved Cloning Efforts

BYLINE: AP

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Jan. 19

BODY:

The Food and Drug Administration has a warning for the Chicago physicist who wants to clone a human: The agency intends to stop anyone who pursues such an experiment without its permission.

The physicist, Dr. Richard Seed, has met with a public outcry, and his plans have led to a race by Congress and more than a dozen states to ban cloning.

With the F.D.A. filling what critics had called a regulatory vacuum, scientists now say lawmakers should take more time to insure that vaguely worded anticloning bills do not also ban lifesaving medical research.

"It's been a public and media assumption that there is nothing on the books that would even slow or stop Dr. Seed," said Carl Feldbaum of the Biotechnology Industry Organization, which represents biotechnologists involved in cloning research.

The threat of F.D.A. intervention "creates at least some breathing space," Mr. Feldbaum said.

F.D.A. investigators plan to make clear to Dr. Seed that Federal regulations require that he file for F.D.A. approval before any efforts at cloning and that permission is highly unlikely.

"We're not only able to move, we're prepared to move," said Dr. Michael Friedman, Acting Commissioner of Food and Drugs.

Dr. Friedman noted that the agency could go to court to stop unauthorized efforts at cloning.

Dr. Friedman said cloning raised significant scientific issues and ethical concerns. He said the first cloning success, involving the Scottish sheep Dolly, took 277 tries.

For safety reasons, he said, "we're more interested in the 277 failures than in the success."

Dr. Seed, who was unavailable for comment, has said he plans to clone a person within 18 months. A physicist, Dr. Seed has no medical degree, no laboratory backing and little money, so scientists are not taking him

seriously.

But President Clinton urged Congress to ban human cloning, Congressional leaders have pledged quick action after they return next week, and bills are pouring into state legislatures.

Scientists said broadly worded bills already pending in Congress would ban research that is related to cloning and could one day help in growing replacement organs, mending spinal-cord injuries and improving treatments for infertility.

Legislation should only ban efforts to clone humans, the scientists said.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 20, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: TOM FREEDMAN, MARY L. SMITH
FROM: DREW HANSEN
RE: PROJECT UPDATES
DATE: AUGUST 8, 1997

Here is a list of what I've been working on:

Done, can be followed up:

Child Care Financing
Child Safety Seats
Disease List (and minority impacts)
Millennium
NASA Projects
Tobacco Farmer Compensation

Preliminary work done, can be followed up if they sound interesting:

Mini-memos:

- alcohol marketing on the Internet
- Eldercorps
- standardized health insurance plans
- redlining of video dialtone facilities.

Big ideas:

- "A Cop Next Door" (low-interest mortgages for police who move into high-crime areas) ✓
 - Serious Habitual Offenders Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP) (database targeting of habitual criminals)
 - Jury Reform (limit peremptory challenges, etc.)
 - Adopt a Special Kid (AASK) (adoption on the Internet)
 - Charity Tax Credit (tax credit for donations to anti-poverty charities)
 - "Compassion Credit" (tax credit for home care of needy individuals)
 - Medical Volunteer Tort Coverage
 - Restitution Enforcement
 - Individual Development Accounts (for low-income people to build assets to buy a house, save for education, etc.)
 - Mentoring (expand Big Brothers/Big Sisters)
- 6

- Kinship Care (relatives as preferred foster care placement option)
- Internet Encryption (allow it, no “key” powers to federal government)
- Expand Home Office Tax Deduction
- Lobbyist Reform (5-year ban on lobbying by federal officials after they leave government)
- DOE Budget Reform (less money on research, more on replication)
- “Second Generation” Environmental Laws (goals, local planning, market-oriented solutions)
- Performance Based Organizations (PBOs) (more “reinventing government”)
- GI Bill for American Workers (job training/re-training)

Ongoing:

Family Report

Magazines Update (weekly, Tuesdays)

AS20 will
unusual
complaints

CLB3 - lower
50 FFR

D. GL - SBA

DPL - EEOC

→ Urban Affair

→ HHS

→ OLR

→ Civ. Ed.

EEOC

DOJ

P.O.L.

USDA

OMB

USDA

USDA

CIV. PR

- COS

C

WEL

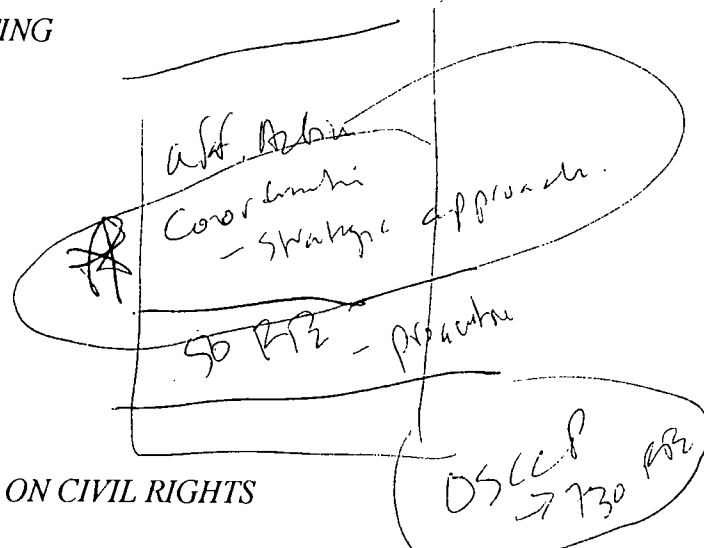
DPL

AGENDA

CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT MEETING AUGUST 22, 1997

I. AGENCIES PARTICIPATING

- EEOC
- DOJ
- EDUCATION
- SBA
- HUD
- LABOR
- INTERIOR
- USDA
- HHS
- DOT
- US COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS



II. PRESENT STATUS OF CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT IN AGENCY PROGRAMS

- What programs at your agency involve civil rights issues?
- What types of complaints do you receive at the agency? E.g. backlog, discrimination in selection, unfair treatment, denial of loans, etc. What is the most common type of complaint?
- What is the process for investigating civil rights complaints? How many complaints do you have pending currently?
- How many court cases are pending?
- What percent of program benefits do minorities receive?
- Which minority groups are affected by your programs?
- What recent high profile initiatives or problems have involved your agency?

III. POSSIBLE PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT IN AGENCY PROGRAMS

- Are there any ongoing initiatives currently being implemented?
- What proposals or ideas are there to improve civil rights enforcement at your agency? E.g. Increased funding, more legal authority, agency reorganization.

IV. TIME LINE FOR NEXT MEETING

* Training

train to look
for documents

* Budget - plan ahead
 - pre-list
 - organize whole planning

Coordination - how does it fit together.

- An interagency strategy - integration

- full housing task force

- DOJ

- title 6 (monthly times)

St. Petersburg
 → 4/15
 signature,
 → Hurd
 →

Orin
 + Ambasc

* Re-mark

Example p. 64.
 always -
 Performance evaluation system
 should consider
 civil rights issues.
 Not just your problem - compliance

MEETING

1. Tobacco
2. Food donations
3. Trucks, freeze federal elgnths, weights and routes for trailers
4. Court system
5. Privacy
6. Consumer protection

~~crack sentences~~

nasa

plane

parks

international crime

fines

Women bill of rights
→ women's bill

find
guilty

~~Regio~~

legislate to
fix it.

Contraceptives / Insurance
mainstream

welfare

- privatization
- minimum wage
- legal

ed fees

FDA reg'l
Sanctions

Child safety planes

trucks

fine center

twelve successful samples to CR

AGENDA

JULY 18, 1997

• Lunch w/ CES
• Aug. 5th - Night Out
- keeps
- Coaches

Chris
child support
Unhappy
ed.
7 ideas

• meet w/ everyone
• JKlien
• Look at Hyde/Watson

1. Long-term planning process memo
2. Gender preference executive order
3. Child safety in commercial airplanes
4. National Summit on Food Recovery
5. A Report on the Family
6. Privacy

• more limited pension - medicare
• home care co payments seem dead
• Archer / Spratt united
• Medicaid - probably not \$24 bill
• unclear on 204 on 'baico'
- either in or out

• Immunization at 1:30 Wedn.
- Registry
• Toronto settlement - this wk.
• Case keep working on
• needle exchange - only w/ Mckinney this wk.
• Pops guy outreach Tuesday.

Jose

• radio - ~~happ~~
• Brady follow-up - en list
• Jany Bill - Mutch agreed to 24 bills
- COPS bill
• Collective bargaining - mtry at noon
• Cities follow-up.

CR

- Losing on everything
- full privatization
- Immigration - no future possible
- Voted 25% res'd to mcr
- Attempting to buy
- pres. preference, 561 - over 50% wine
because
- wcr - small program - Arch
- Hyde-Watson (LPS)
- NBA speech - welfare

MC
LA
HST
Lyn
NY
LA
Pitt.
Brewer
S.D.

Henderson

De -
wine
in
city

\$12

OBey
- finding
schools

AGENDA

JULY 18, 1997

1. Long-term planning process memo
2. Gender preference executive order
3. Child safety in commercial airplanes
4. National Summit on Food Recovery
5. A Report on the Family
6. Privacy

*revised
March 1998*

Paper 289-0916

Smoking in fed'l workplace

Issues:

spending options

child seats

* gender exec order-- new as law *

farmers vs. Kids, research, cessation, vsa. Other

consumer rights (fed'l government protect)

contraceptives (insurance prescription as drugs) — ~

Wasted food tax deduction-- lost food

Teacher tenure

Equal Pay Act

Retail Crime

Fix - Schumer
bill

Child
care
tax credit
→

* NAACP integration

* integration policy

domestic

* Brady

Appreciate
the effort

needle exchange

2/1/11 11-12:00

→ Brady

→ service

first block
global warming
medicare/medicaid
tobacco settlement

By [signature]
Tom

TO: RAHM EMANUEL
FROM: PAUL HARSTAD, TALMEY-DRAKE RESEARCH
RE: COMPELLING CONCERNS ABOUT GOP CONSERVATIVES

9-3-97

Now that Congress has for the time being taken a balanced budget, tax cuts, and even Medicare off the table of partisan differences, we Democrats must search for new issues, contrasts and advantages versus the Republicans. However, some key contrasts between the parties remain just as compelling as before -- issues that I've recommended to my clients for at least several years now.

Therefore, I thought you might be interested in the attached survey results from earlier this summer among 500 Colorado voters. I tested voter reactions to a dozen different concerns about the agenda of conservative Republicans in Congress.

You might note the most compelling criticism of conservatives is on pocketbook issues, with an 'us versus them' positioning. This pocketbook appeal manifests itself most strongly on tax fairness (on which we can tag virtually all GOP incumbents from 1997 votes), but it also tests compellingly on undermining pension protections (from 1995 votes), jeopardizing overtime pay protections (the current comp time bill), and pay equity for women (where explicit GOP opposition is harder to document so far).

Voters are truly repelled by those who want to make abortion illegal and put doctors who perform abortions in jail (the second strongest criticism). The potency of this anti-abortion charge is consistent with dozens of my other surveys, and this charge does not even test the strongest version about those who wants to make abortions illegal *even in cases of rape and incest*. Let me know if you'd like a copy of my 20 page strategy memo 'Winning Close Races with the Abortion Issue,' or the executive summary.

Another issue that should be turned against conservative Republicans is their blocking of an effective ban on cop killer bullets (and in many areas of other mild forms of gun control like the assault weapons ban and child safety trigger locks). We are far too skittish of the potential of such common sense gun proposals.

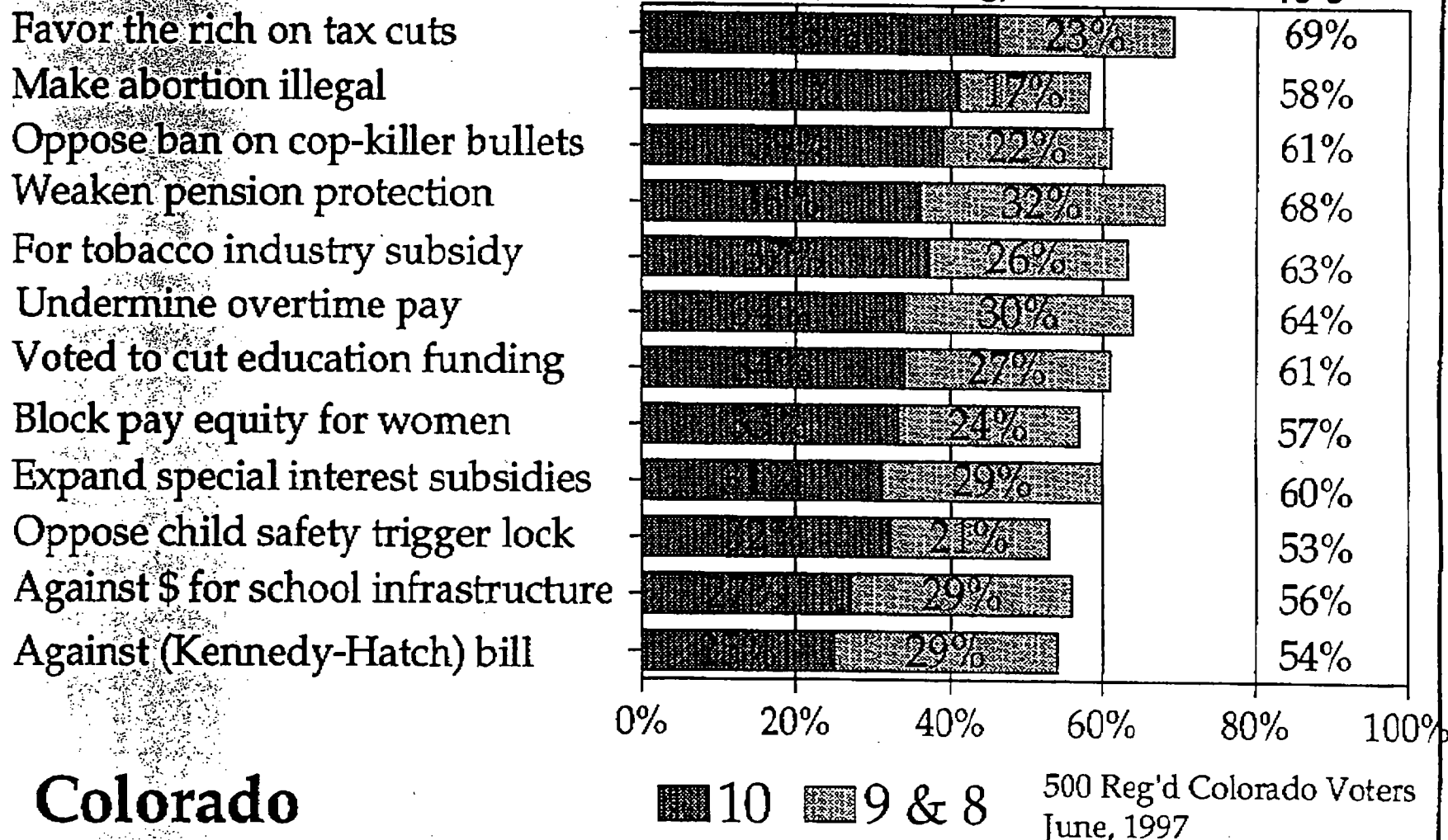
Finally, the Republicans' dependence upon tobacco PAC money, their support for a tobacco industry subsidy (crop support), and their opposition to anti-teen smoking campaigns (from 1997 votes) are seriously troubling to voters. Tobacco companies are to the 1990s what oil companies were during the 1970s' oil crises, evoking intense hostility surpassing that of almost any other business or political entity in America.

I consider it imperative that these types of charges be tested in all your polls where applicable (including abortion, guns, and tobacco). Variations on these could surely apply to races at the state level as well. Although this survey was taken in Colorado, I have found similar reactions in states across the nation, as recently as a few weeks ago in a southern suburban congressional district. I welcome any comments, questions or input you might have.

How Troubling Are Selected Criticisms of Conservative Republicans in Congress, on a Scale of 0-10

% Saying 10, 9, 8 (Highly Troubling)

10-8



Paul Harstad, Talmey-Drake Research, Boulder, Colorado 303-443-5300

Paul Harstad 303-443-5300
Talmey-Drake Research & Strategy
Boulder, Colorado

500 Registered Colorado Voters
June 18-23, 1997

Suppose the election for Congress were held today. Everything else being equal, would you vote for the Republican candidate or for the Democratic candidate? *[If 'DK/NS,' ask:]* Well, which way would you lean?

Republican	25%	>	30%
Lean Republican	5%		
Democrat	32%	>	37%
Lean Democrat	5%		
Depends/neither/don't vote party <i>[Do not read]</i>	23%		
DK/NS.....	10%		

Now I'm going to read you some concerns some people have raised about what the conservative Republicans are actually trying to do in Congress. For each one I read, please tell me how much it troubles you about supporting conservative Republicans for Congress on a scale of zero through 10. If an item troubles you a great deal, choose a number closer to 8, 9 or 10. If an item doesn't troubles you at all, choose a number closer to zero or 1. You may choose any number you want from zero through 10, depending upon how much it troubles you about supporting conservative Republicans? *[Be sure respondent understands scale] [Randomize]*

Ranked by persuasiveness

		Troubles A					Doesn't		Average
		<u>Great Deal</u>					<u>Trouble</u>		
		<u>10+9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7-6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4-0</u>	
The conservatives are proposing to give most of their tax cuts this year to millionaires and the richest one-fifth of Americans rather than to middle class, working families	60%	46%	14%	9%	7%	6%	16%	7.7	
The conservatives want to make abortion illegal and put doctors who perform abortions in jail.....	50%	41%	9%	8%	6%	11%	24%	6.9	
The conservatives are cozy with the N.R.A. and even OPPOSE a ban on some bullets that can pierce bulletproof vests - so called cop killer bullets.....	49%	39%	10%	12%	11%	9%	16%	7.4	
The conservatives voted to WEAKEN protections for employees' pension funds, and to permit companies to divert employees' pension funds for other purposes.....	52%	36%	16%	16%	9%	8%	12%	7.8	

Ranked by persuasiveness	Troubles A Great Deal					Doesn't Trouble		Average
	10+9	10	9	8	7-6	5	4-0	
The conservatives get lots of money from tobacco companies and side with them to continue a subsidy for the tobacco industry paid for by taxpayers	49%	37%	12%	14%	11%	7%	17%	7.4
The conservatives are proposing a new law to undermine 60-year-old protections for overtime pay and to let companies avoid paying workers overtime pay for hours worked beyond 40 a week	49%	34%	15%	15%	12%	7%	16%	7.5
The conservatives have voted to CUT federal funding for education, and they just voted AGAINST more money for computers in schools - all of which would cripple America's commitment to public schools	45%	34%	11%	16%	13%	8%	16%	7.3
Even though women make only 70 percent of men's pay, the conservatives are blocking new protections and better enforcement to ensure that women get equal pay for equal work	44%	33%	11%	13%	13%	11%	17%	7.1
While scaling back benefits for the middle class, the conservatives are protecting and EXPANDING subsidies and tax breaks for the big corporations and special interests	45%	31%	14%	15%	12%	7%	18%	7.3
The conservatives are cozy with the N.R.A. by OPPOSING a new law to require child safety trigger locks be placed on any new guns sold to help prevent accidental shootings	42%	32%	10%	11%	10%	11%	24%	6.8
The conservatives voted AGAINST federal funds to help renovate crumbling and unsafe school buildings and to re-wire school buildings to accommodate computers and modern technology	41%	27%	14%	15%	14%	9%	18%	7.1
The conservatives voted AGAINST providing health insurance coverage for most Uninsured kids from moderate income families - which would have been paid by an increase in the cigarette tax	36%	25%	11%	18%	16%	12%	17%	6.9

