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To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP
cc: Mary L. Smith/OPD/EOP
Subject: Some Updates

Here's a quick update on some of our issues, sorry it runs a little long. I think we will have some good things happen.

① DOJ debt collection bill: we got an informal estimate of saving \$270 million from DOJ, David Huan at OMB is looking to see if they can confirm that kind of saving. He says obviously now would be good time to move it if we can. There will be legal/political vetting issues even if we get a good estimate for the bill-- the law moves the presumptions on debt collection in the government's favor.

③ Pagers for battered woman: DOJ says the cell phone industry is agreeable, they've offered phones for each shelter (1,400) so women could leave the facility and still have access to the police. We need to look for other places that make sense to have phones. DOJ is meeting with courts people to see about making phones available to women getting restraining orders. We're hoping to have this for the SOTU.

① Religious Freedom in the Workplace-- we've had several meetings with DOJ, DOL, SBA, EEOC, Commerce, OPL, and counsel (Bill Marshall). The group felt the original bill was terribly drafted and unworkable. A working group led by DOJ has finished their version of the bill. That bill is now waiting for sign off by David Ogden etc. We'll then need to do more vetting. Each agency has already been talking to the groups to see where they stood on the Coats/Kerry bill, but we will need to do this in a thorough way and we'll get back to you with a plan this week when we hope to get the draft bill.

Lifetime supervision for child sex offenders: In June, DOJ said they would have a study done in six months. Rahm likes this issue and he brought the issue up today at the crime meeting, DOJ is looking for hooks. Nick Guess said the idea would be to condition prison funds, I think this will be hard to find a manageable option but we will find something more narrow than a wholesale plan.

Single Food Agency-- We've talked to OMB and I'm sending Elena their memo. The proposal will experience bureaucratic attacks-- the agencies haven't been told about the project according to Wendy Taylor at OMB. It seems like a good substantive idea, it will be a politically good one only if we don't cut the budget. Wendy says OMB doesn't think this involves a savings, in fact there are slightly higher admin. costs.

④ Accomplishments list-- Rahm came to the COS breakfast meeting Tuesday and explained how the President wanted this list. Mary is coordinating the answers which we should be getting this week with the goal of having something before X-mas.

Rural disaster recovery-- Mary has talked to Carl W. and is sending you a memo on what's going on.

⑤ Tobacco - Small farmers
part insurance fund

⑥ Ogden
called on
David Greenberg
pay equity

TO DO sw

⑦ WTW → son

⑧ Blair

⑨ Tobacco
news

⑩ New room
space
anti-theft

Specific
X-mas
wishlist

Skinhead violence in Denver: Ogden at DOJ has had a meeting looking for what to do. He agrees that it fits nicely with many of the President's initiatives, He says the local folks are wary of looking like the federal government is trying to step into a local prosecution. But says he is following up and promises to get back to us.

Sexual orientation exec order: Dawn Chirwa is looking at this in relation to the military (DOD had no problems) otherwise it is ready to go.

Regards, Tom