

MEMORANDUM

November 17, 1998

TO:

~~MICHAEL~~
~~Interested Parties~~

FR:

Tom Janenda
Communications Research

RE:

New Administration Record/Message Document (Draft)

SOTU
fudw

Attached is a draft of a newly created Communications-Research Administration accomplishments document entitled, "*The Clinton-Gore Administration Record: A Smaller Government Doing More For American Families.*"

I have worked with DPC and NEC staff on the factual material. If there are any additional factual or political questions or comments please let me know as soon as possible. I would like to have a final version by Wednesday (11/18) morning.

I put this document together because I think it would be useful to distribute internally within the WH and among Democrats on the Hill this week -- while both parties are having their Leadership elections and speaking publicly about their agenda for the 106th Congress.

cc:

John Podesta
Doug Sosnik
Paul Begala
Ann Lewis
Joe Lockhart
Bruce Reed
Gene Sperling

THE CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION RECORD: *A Smaller Government Doing More For American Families*

By almost any measure, the Federal government is smaller today than it was in January 1993 when President Clinton and Vice President Gore took office. Taxes are lower. The deficit is now a surplus. There are fewer government employees than at any time in 35 years. Fewer people receive welfare benefits today than at anytime since 1969. However, the true accomplishment of the Clinton/Gore Administration is that, beyond simply making government "smaller," *this Administration has created a government that does more with less*. It has balanced the budget and made significant investments that give American families the tools they need to succeed in the future.

The Government Is Smaller Than It Has Been In A Generation...

Taxes Are Lower Under The Clinton/Gore Administration: Middle income Americans -- and the bottom 60 percent of families as a whole -- have a lower effective Federal tax rate today than in any year of the Reagan Administration, and the lowest rate since data was first recorded in 1977. [Congressional Budget Office]

Deficits Have Been Eliminated Under The Clinton/Gore Administration: The deficit *exploded* from \$74 billion in 1980 -- to \$290 billion in 1992. Today, the deficit has been eliminated and there is a budget surplus for the first time since 1969. [Congressional Budget Office, Historical Budget Data (Table E-1)]

Government Is Smaller Under The Clinton/Gore Administration: While the size of the Federal workforce *increased* between 1981 and 1992, it has been cut by more than 351,000 employees since 1993 -- giving us the smallest Federal workforce in 35 years. [Office of Personnel Management, Office of Workforce Information; National Performance Review (www.npr.gov)]

Federal Spending Is Lower Under The Clinton/Gore Administration: From 1980 to 1992, spending as a share of GDP *increased*, rising from 21.7% to 22.5%. Since President Clinton took office, spending as a share of the economy has fallen from 22.5% in 1992 to 20.0% in 1998 -- the lowest level since 1974.

Welfare Has Been Reformed Under The Clinton/Gore Administration: While the number of Americans receiving welfare benefits *rose* by 3.5 million between 1981 and January 1993, that number has declined by 5.7 million people under President Clinton -- the largest decline in history. [US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, 8/98; HHS Website (www.hhs.gov)]

Federal Regulation Has Been Reduced Under The Clinton/Gore Administration: President Clinton and Vice President Gore have eliminated 16,000 pages of Federal regulations as part of the Vice President's National Performance Review. [National Performance Review accomplishments (www.npr.gov)]

Unfunded Mandates Have Been Restricted Under The Clinton/Gore Administration: The number of unfunded Federal mandates imposed on State and local governments by Washington grew from zero in 1964 to 174 in 1992. President Clinton signed the "Unfunded Mandates Reform Act" in 1995 -- limiting Congress' ability to levy these mandates *for the first time in history*. [President's Remarks on Signing the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act, 3/22/95]

Education Regulations Have Been Slashed Under The Clinton/Gore Administration: Under President Clinton, *more than 66%* of Federal K-12 education regulations have been *eliminated*; and while there was only *one* charter school in 1992 -- there are now more than 1000, giving parents innovative *public* school choice options. [US Department of Education]

...And Doing More To Give Families The Tools They Need To Succeed

THE CLINTON/GORE ADMINISTRATION ELIMINATED THE DEFICIT, BALANCED THE BUDGET...

☐ **...AND Made the Largest Overall Investment in Education in 30 Years.**

☒ The 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement included many of the President's education initiatives -- adding up to the largest overall investment in education in 30 years. [President's Remarks on Signing H.R. 2015 and 1014, 8/5/97; Statement by the President, 8/5/97]

☐ **...AND Made the Largest Investment in Higher Education Since the G.I. Bill.**

☒ The 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement included many of the President's higher education initiatives, including HOPE Scholarships and the Tuition Tax Credit, which added up to the largest investment in higher education since passage of the G.I. Bill. [President's Remarks on Signing H.R. 2015 and 1014, 8/5/97; Statement by the President, 8/5/97]

☐ **...AND Put 100,000 New Community Police Officers on Our Street.**

☒ The President's 1994 Anti-Crime Bill included his COPS program -- which will put 100,000 community oriented police officers on our nation's streets. The President has continued his commitment to this program in subsequent years, despite Republican opposition. [US Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 6/22/98 (COPS Fact Sheet)]

☐ **...AND Made the Largest Investment in Children's Health Since 1965.**

☒ The 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement included the President's proposal to invest \$24 billion to increase meaningful health care coverage for millions of children -- the single largest investment in children's health since 1965. [President's Remarks on Signing H.R. 2015 and 1014, 8/5/97; Statement by the President, 8/5/97]

☐ **...AND More Than Doubled Head Start to Serve More Kids Than Any Time in History.**

☒ The President has more than doubled funding for Head Start, from \$2.2 billion in FY 1992 to \$4.66 billion in FY 1998. Today the early childhood development program reaches 830,000 children and their families -- more than have been served by the program since it was created. And the President won additional funding this year which puts the program on track to meet the President's goal of reaching 1 million kids. [HHS Fact Sheet, "Improving Head Start: A Success Story," 10/27/98]

- ☐ **...AND Cleaned Up Twice as Many Toxic Waste Sites in Less Than 6 Years -- as Had Been Cleaned Up in 12 Years Under The Reagan and Bush Administrations.**

☒ Under President Clinton, twice as many Superfund toxic waste sites have been cleaned up in less than six years -- than the total number cleaned up in 12 years under the previous administrations. [US Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Emergency And Remedial Response, 8/12/98; 6/23/97]

- ☐ **...AND Provided Families With up to 12 Weeks of Family Medical Leave.**

☒ The President signed the Family and Medical Leave Act into law in 1993. The bill has allowed millions of people to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for a family member without fear of losing their job. [President's Remarks on Signing the Family and Medical Leave Act, 2/5/93]

- ☐ **...AND Provided Tax Cuts to 15 Million Working Families.**

☒ The President's 1993 Economic Plan included a tax cut for 15 million American families through expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit. The average family with two kids who received the EITC got a tax cut of \$1,026. [Statement by the President on H.R. 2014, 8/5/97]

- ☐ **...AND Provided Tax Cuts For 90 Percent of Small Businesses.**

☒ The President's 1993 Economic Plan made over 90 percent of small businesses eligible for tax reductions through the increased small business expensing limit and capital gains tax relief targeted to small businesses. [Statement by the President on H.R. 2014, 8/5/97; National Economic Council]

- ☐ **...AND Created The AmeriCorps National Service Program.**

☒ The President's AmeriCorps program has allowed more than 100,000 young people to serve their communities while earning money for college or skills training. [Corporation for National Service press release, 10/21/98]

**An Agenda To *Build* On The Record Of Smaller
— But More Effective — Government That Helps American Families**

Important work awaits the 106th Congress. Our government is smaller than it has been in a generation, but American families still face real challenges in their daily lives where the Government can make a difference.

- **Maintain Fiscal Discipline And Responsibility**
- **Save Social Security First**
- **Pass A *Real* Patients' Bill Of Rights**
- **Rebuild And Refurbish 5,000 Schools**
- **Pass An Increase In The Minimum Wage**

Ten Republican "Smaller Government" Ideas President Clinton Rejected

- ① **Shutting Down The Federal Government....** President Clinton opposed the Republican Government shutdowns of 1995.
- ② **Eliminating The Department of Education....** President Clinton opposed the 1995 House Republican FY 1996 Budget Resolution which called for the elimination of the Department of Education. [Congressional Quarterly House vote #345, 7/11/96]
- ③ **Cutting The Head Start Pre-School Program....** President Clinton vetoed the Republican's 1995 Budget Reconciliation bill (HR 2491) which would have cut \$135 million from Head Start, denying 180,000 young children from poor families early educational help. [President's Veto Message on HR 2491, 12/6/95; White House National Economic Council, "President Clinton's Reasons for Vetoing the Republican Budget," 12/6/95]
- ④ **Cutting Pell Grant College Scholarships....** President Clinton vetoed the Republican's 1995 Budget Reconciliation bill (HR 2491) which would have cut Pell Grants by \$450 million, denying college aid to 380,000 deserving students in 1996. [President's Veto Message on HR 2491, 12/6/95; White House National Economic Council, "President Clinton's Reasons for Vetoing the Republican Budget," 12/6/95]
- ⑤ **Eliminating The 100,000 COPS Program....** President Clinton vetoed the 1995 Republican passed FY 1996 Commerce, Justice and State Appropriations bill which would have eliminated the President's COPS initiative to put 100,000 more community police officers on the street to protect our families and communities. [President's Veto Message on HR 2076, 12/19/95]
- ⑥ **Cutting The Safe And Drug Free Schools Program....** President Clinton vetoed the Republican's 1995 Budget Reconciliation bill (HR 2491) which would have cut the Safe and Drug Free Schools program in half, reducing drug and violence prevention services to up to 23 million school children. [President's Veto Message on HR 2491, 12/6/95; White House National Economic Council, "President Clinton's Reasons for Vetoing the Republican Budget," 12/6/95]
- ⑦ **Cutting The Earned Income Tax Credit....** President Clinton vetoed the Republican's 1995 Budget Reconciliation bill (HR 2491) which would have cut the EITC by \$31 billion over seven years, *raising* net taxes on 7.7 million families earning less than \$30,000 per year. [President's Veto Message on HR 2491, 12/6/95]
- ⑧ **Eliminating The AmeriCorps National Service Program....** President Clinton vetoed the Republican passed FY 1996 VA/HUD Appropriations bill which eliminated all funds for the AmeriCorps program, costing nearly 50,000 young Americans the chance to serve their communities while earning money towards further education or training. [President's Veto Message on HR 2099, 12/18/95]
- ⑨ **Gutting Environmental Enforcement....** President Clinton vetoed the 1995 Republican passed FY 1996 VA/HUD Appropriations bill which included a 25 percent cut in EPA enforcement that would have crippled our ability to enforce laws against polluters. [President's Veto Message on HR 2099, 12/18/95]
- ⑩ **Gutting Clean Up Of Toxic Waste Sites....** President Clinton vetoed the 1995 Republican passed FY 1996 VA/HUD Appropriations bill which included a 25% cut in the Superfund program, which would have prevented the clean-up of toxic waste sites and continue to expose hundreds of thousands of citizens to dangerous chemicals. [President's Veto Message on HR 2099, 12/18/95]