

8/5/98

DIANA FORTUNA, DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL

BOX 5

DISABILITY FILES CON'T

CURRENCY TREASURY
DISABILITY DOCS.
DISABILITY NATURALIZE/OATH
DISAB/NATURALIZATION REG.
DISABLED WORK
DISABLED WORK/INCENTIVE DEVELOPMENT
DISCIPLINE-IDEA
EMPLOYMENT DISPUTE
ENVIRONMENTAL ROUNDTABLE
FCC
FDIC
FEDERAL DISABILITY WORK GROUP
DON FERSH
GINGRICH TASKFORCE
GUIDING PRINCIPLES
HELEN L
HOUSING
ILO WILLI MOMM
LEARNING DISABILITIES
MEDICAID IN 99 BUDGET
MRS. GORE BRIEFING
NDPR (NATIONAL DISABILITY POLICY REVIEW)
NDPR 7/13 MTG.
PAIMI
PARALYMPICS
PARALYPMICS CONGRESS
PASS
PRESIDENT DISABILITY MEETING 9/10/97
RETURN TO WORK (BACKGROUND)

ENCLOSURES FILED OVERSIZE ATTACHMENTS

12025

NARA 9406

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

19-Apr-1996 12:30pm

TO: Carol H. Rasco

FROM: Diana M. Fortuna
Domestic Policy Council

CC: Elizabeth E. Drye
CC: Jeremy D. Benami

SUBJECT: currency

Bill White and I had an interesting meeting over at Treasury, with the folks who are working on the redesign of the currency.

They have just finished the \$100, and are turning their attention to the \$50, with the intention of doing one bill a year for the next several years. They took a big leap in changing that bill by adding many new security features to it: big, new, off-center portrait of Franklin, watermark, ink that is different colors from different angles, etc. (The currency hasn't had a major change since the 1920's.)

For the \$50, they are thinking about how to address an issue that has come up over the years: how the blind and visually impaired can tell one bill from another. They commissioned a bunch of engineers and other experts to study this, and the experts issued a report last year. The experts consulted in some way with the major blind/visually impaired groups.

Some of the most obvious solutions were rejected: different size bills has a huge cost to the private sector, which has all those cash drawers that fit the current dollars. Raised lettering would wear off. And punching holes in it has bad associations: Russia and the Middle East would regard it as defacing bills, and also you punch a hole in a bond to signify it is no longer valid.

They are also very concerned that they not do anything too weird to undermine confidence in the currency. They are mindful of the public's rejection of the Susan B. Anthony dollar, and the general mistrust of government.

So they were left with things that would only help the visually impaired. (There are 3 million visually impaired people and 200,000 blind people in the country.) Their preferred option is to put a much larger, higher contrast number on the back of the bill in one corner. Apparently it looks a bit jarring, so they want to be sure it's worth changing.

They just wanted to advise me and Bill of what they are considering. If the Administration settles on their preferred option, they plan to advise the blind/visually impaired groups a bit in advance to make sure they are supportive.

The National Federation for the Blind tends to oppose accommodations for the blind, so I imagine they won't oppose this. Also, this will benefit seniors, not just the disabled. The American Council for the Blind is the other big group, as you know. We can also tell them that we don't plan to wait another 70 years to do more changes, and that as technology improves we will try to do something for the blind. (Apparently Canada gave every blind person a piece of equipment worth a few hundred dollars that reads bills and speaks the denomination.)

This will probably happen in early 1997, although it is possible it would be ready sooner. The \$100 change was the big story, and focused on security; if there is news this time, it would be the visually impaired change, perhaps to have a "greying of America" angle, too.

We told them we were supportive of the change. I checked with Liz Savage to get her read, and she agreed. Let me know if you have any questions I should ask them.

Interesting stuff!

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

19-Apr-1996 12:35pm

TO: Diana M. Fortuna

FROM: Carol H. Rasco
 Domestic Policy Council

CC: Elizabeth E. Drye

CC: Jeremy D. Benami

SUBJECT: RE: currency

Fascinating...thanks so much for sharing the briefing. I have had many visually impaired and blind friends who have struggled with this issue. I applaud Treasury for spending so much time/energy/etc. on it.

April 17, 1996

- The Clinton Administration welcomes State Directors of Special Education, State Advisory Panel Members, and Regional Resource Centers staff to the Cash Room.
- We support your efforts to assure ^{and others} that all children with disabilities receive access to quality education.
- The Clinton Administration has supported a Reauthorization Proposal that seeks to strengthen IDEA with an emphasis on improving accountability for results.
- The Administration has requested a 12% increase in Part B funding for Fiscal Year 1997 as well as 254 million for discretionary programs.
- The Administration has fought attempts by Congress to eliminate the Medicaid entitlement for disabled people.
- The Administration strongly supports the American with Disabilities Act.
- The Administration has fostered inclusion of children with disabilities in all our efforts to improve education with strong inclusive language in GOALS 2000, Improving America's Schools Act, and in our School-to-Work Legislation.
- We thank you for all that you do to improve opportunity for students with disabilities.

→ BUSY TIME: we're working

→ We're working in many arenas to

Spt PWD in their efforts to

participate in all
their
programs
etc.

working together

Currently - Daisy Bradbury
Michael Barr

4/17/96

Sense of House prop

ADA/DOJ?

Tom - R+D

~~See issue too?~~
~~4/100~~

+ Sean Flynn - other countries do it -

* (call Liz S
(other gpt))

- size easiest, but expensive for private sector

- raised / tactile - raised words off on paper

Approp subcomm since 1983

Machine reader - electronic imprint

Gort gave in Canada - couple hundred dollars

ADA - unclear - not if too expensive

3 ideas to res further : a size

diff colors

numeral more distinct

> 3 m vis imp'd

200,000 blind

Holes - could rip

Int'l - cancel = holes

Middle East - defacing laws

Earliest - early 97; alth cld be fall; flexible

This wld be most of story

ACB / NFB - do made for us

Separate mtgs.