A VICTORY FOR AMERICA'S STUDENTS

November 18, 1999

	HOUSE GOP BUDGET*	FINAL BUDGET AGREEMENT	DIFFERENCE
Class Size Reduction	$0**	$1.3 billion	**+$1.3 billion**
After-School Programs	$300 million	$453 million	**+$153 million**
GEAR UP	$0	$200 million	**+$200 million**
Title I Grants to LEAs	$7.732 billion	$7.941 billion	**+$209 million**
Accountability Set-aside/Title I	$0	$134 million***	**+$134 million**
Head Start	$4.760 billion	$5.267 billion	**+$507 million**
Education Technology	$500 million	$769 million	**+$269 million**
Teacher Quality Enhancement	$75 million	$98 million	**+$23 million**
Safe and Drug Free Schools	$566 million	$606 million	**+$40 million**
Charter Schools	$130 million	$145 million	**+$15 million**
Reading Excellence	$200 million	$260 million	**+$60 million**
Adult Education	$ 378 million	$470 million	**+$92 million**
Work Study	$ 880 million	$934 million	**+$64 million**
Learning Anytime Anywhere	$0	$24 million	**+$24 million**
Hispanic Educ. Action Plan ****	$43 million	$436 million	**+$393 million**

*Based on the Labor/Health and Human Services and Education bill passed by the House Appropriations Committee on September 23, 1999. This bill provided $33.321 billion for all education programs, compared to $35.701 billion in the final budget agreement.
**House bill eliminated the class size program by absorbing it in a block grant that dedicated no funding specifically for class size reduction.
***The Title I set-aside for accountability is also included in the Title I grants to LEAs.
****These figures represent increase over FY 1999. HEAP figures also include increase to Title I.

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Labor/HHS/Education House Committee, Senate-Passed Bill, and Nov. 12 Conference Agreement

(all Program Levels in millions)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Budget	House FY 2000 Mark	Senate FY 2000 Bill	Oct. 27 FY 2000 Conf. Bill	Nov. 12 Conference Agreement	Nov. 12 Conf. Agreement (+/-) Budget
Education							
Class Size	1,200	1,400	0	1,200	1,200	1,300	-100
Goals 2000	491	491	0	494	491	491	0
Eisenhower Professional Development	335	335	0	335	335	335	0
Teacher Empowerment Act*	0	0	1,800	0	0	0	0
Total (non add)	*2,026*	*2,226*	*1,800*	2,029	2,026	2,126	-100
School-to-Work	125	55	0	55	55	55	0
Education Technology	698	801	500	707	741	769	-32
After School (21st Century Learning Centers)	200	600	300	400	300	450	-150
Title I Grants to LEAs	7,732	7,996	7,732	8,052	7,807	7,941	-55
Safe and Drug Free Schools	566	591	566	636	605	605	14
Magnet Schools	104	114	104	112	110	110	-4
Charter Schools	100	130	130	150	145	145	15
America Reads	260	286	200	285	260	260	-26
Bilingual Education	224	259	224	234	229	248	-11
Adult Education (incl. ESL/Civics)	385	575	378	488	445	470	-105
Pell Grants (BA)	7,704	7,463	7,620	7,778	7,700	7,700	237
Pell Max Award (non add)	*$ 3,125*	*$ 3,250*	*$ 3,275*	*$ 3,325*	*$ 3,300*	*$3,300*	*$50*
Work Study	870	934	880	934	934	934	0
SEOG**	619	631	619	631	621	621	-10
Hispanic Serving Institutions	28	42	28	42	42	42	0
Teacher Quality	75	115	75	80	80	98	-17
GEAR UP	120	240	0	180	180	200	-40
Strengthening HBCUs	135	149	136	142	142	149	0
Preparing for College	0	15	0	0	0	0	-15
College Completion Challenge Grants	0	35	0	0	0	0	-35
Learning Anywhere Anytime Partnerships	10	20	0	10	18	24	4
TRIO	600	630	660	630	645	645	15
Special Ed. Part B Grants to States	4,311	4,314	4,811	4,990	4,990	4,990	676
Impact Aid	864	736	907	892	911	911	175
All Other Education Programs	5,765	5,755	5,651	5,839	6,049	6,207	453
Total Education[3]	33,520	34,712	33,321	35,295	35,034	35,701	989

*The House mark provides $1.8 billion for the Teacher Empowerment Act which would consiolidate class size, Goals 2000, and Eisenhower Professional Development.

**Senate Draft Conference total reflects a $100 million total decrease since the last (Oct. 20) Draft Conference Report. This is due to the $100 million reduction for After School.

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(all Program Levels in millions)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Budget	House FY 2000 Mark	Senate FY 2000 Bill	Oct. 27 FY 2000 Conf. Bill	Nov. 12 Conference Agreement	Nov. 12 Conf. Agreement (+/-) Budget
Labor							
Adult Job Training Formula Grants	955	955	860	950	950	950	-5
Dislocated Workers	1,406	1,596	1,260	1,596	1,596	1596	0
Youth Job Training Formula Grants	1,001	1,001	901	1,001	1,001	1001	0
Youth Opportunity Area Grants	250	250	0	250	250	250	0
Job Corps	1,309	1,347	1,359	1,347	1,359	1359	12
Right Track Partnership	0	75	0	0	0	0	-75
School-to-Work	125	55	0	55	55	55	0
Other JTPA Programs	238	196	192	274	255	255	59
Total JTPA	5,284	5,475	4,572	5,473	5,466	5466	-9
Employment Service Grants	822	848	822	869	829	829	-19
One-Stop Career Center Grants	147	199	100	174	140	140	-59
UI State Administration Grants	2,295	2,460	2,220	2,316	2,285	2285	-175
Labor Law Enforcement:							
Pension and Welfare Benefit Admin	91	102	90	100	96	99	-3
Employment Standards Admin	315	342 **	314	343	335	339	-3
Occupational Safety and Health Admin	354	388	337	388	370	382	-6
Mine Safety and Health Admin	216	228	211	231	228	228	0
Total Labor Law Enforcement							
Bureau of Labor Statistics	399	421	395	409	409	413	-8
Bureau of International Labor Affairs	40	76	40	76	50	70	-6
All other Labor	988	1,048	970	1,068	994	1005	-43
Total Labor	10,951	11,588	10,071	11,445	11,202	11,256	-332

* Shows program level in FY 2000; about 3/4 of the funds are newly advanced appropriated for FY 2001.

** For comparison purposes, excludes $34 million in transfers in programs from another agency denied by the subcommittee, but restored to the sending agency.

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	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Budget	House FY 2000 Mark	Senate FY 2000 Bill	Oct. 27 FY 2000 Conf. Bill	Nov. 12 Conference Agreement	Nov. 12 Conf. Agreement (+/-) Budget
Health and Human Services							
Administration for Children and Families							
Head Start (program level) [2]	4,660	5,267	4,760	5,267	5,267	5267	0
Child Care & Development Block Grant [3]	1,000	1,183	1,183	1,183	1,183	1,183	0
LIHEAP	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1100	0
LIHEAP Emergency Fund Available (non-add)	300	300	300	300	300	300	0
ACF Services	1,372	1,321	1,375	1,416	1,442	1467	146
IDAs (non-add)	10	20	10	10	10	10	-10
Violent Crime Reduction Programs	105	119	105	105	101	101	-18
Refugee and Entrant Assistance	435	443	436	443	439	439	-4
Social Services Block Grant (non-add) [4]	1,909	2,380	1,909	1,050	1,700	1775	-605
TANF [5]	N/A	N/A	-3,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ACF Discretionary Total	8,672	9,432	8,958	9,513	9,531	9,556	124
Administration on Aging	882	1,048	882	942	930	934	-114
Family Caregiver (non-add)	0	125	0	0	0	0	-125
Home-Delivered Meals (non-add)	112	147	112	147	147	147	0

2 FY 2000 Conference agreement and House mark include advance appropriation of $1.4 billion, FY 2000 Senate Bill includes advance appropriation of $1.9 billion.

3 FY 2000 Senate mark includes an advance appropriation for 2001 of $2.0 billion, House mark does not include advance appropriation, and conference includes an advance appropriation of $1.183 million as requested in the President's Budget.

4 FY 2000 Senate bill includes an advance appropriation of $1.33 billion for FY 2001. Conference agreeement includes $425 million in delayed obligations.

5 The House Subcommittee rescinds the advance appropriation in unobligated prior year TANF funds and makes them available in FY 01. We understand this rescission has dropped out of the committee mark.

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Budget	House FY 2000 Mark	Senate FY 2000 Bill	Oct. 27 FY 2000 Conf. Bill	Nov. 12 Conference Agreement	Nov. 12 Conf. Agreement (+/-) Budget
Health Programs							
HCFA Program Level Funding	2,086	2,211	1,812	2,131	2,116	2,134	-77
Medicare+Choice User Fees (non-add)	*[95]*	*[150]*	*[15]*	*[95]*	*[95]*	*[95]*	*[-55]*
HCFA Nursing Home Initiative	*[N/A]*	*[35]*	*[0]*	*[30.5]*	*[15.8]*	*[35]*	*[0]*
Medicare Integrity Program (Prog. Level)	560	630	560	630	630	630	0
Health Care Fraud & Abuse Control (PL)	100	120	100	120	120	120	0
Consolidated Health Centers	925	945	985	1,024	1,024	1,024	79
Children's Hosp. Graduate Medical Ed.	N/A	40	0	0	20	40	0
Family Planning	215	240	215	222	215	239	-1
Ryan White AIDS	1,411	1,511	1,519	1,611	1,550	1,595	85
Ricky Ray	0	0	20	50	50	75	75
Childhood Immunizations*	448	526	421	512	482	510	-16
CDC HIV/AIDS	657	702	657	662	662	730	29
CDC Infectious Diseases	137	182	146	166	146	167	-15

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Nat'l Inst. for Occupational Safety & Health	200	212	200	215	215	216	4
CDC Race & Health Demonstration Grants	10	35	10	35	30	30	-5
National Institutes of Health	15,597	15,933	16,935	17,613	17,933	17,933	2,000
SAMHSA Mental Health Programs	512	589	520	631	577	634	45
SAMHSA Substance Abuse Programs	1,918	1,980	1,841	2,010	1,913	1,962	-18
Health Care Access for the Uninsured	N/A	25	0	0	0	25	0
Bioterrorism**	174	235	197	224	224	243	8
All Other Health Programs	2,856	2,364	2,631	2,476	2,468	2,913	550
Total Health Programs	27,805	28,478	28,788	30,283	30,372	31,220	2,742
Total HHS	37,359	38,958	38,630	40,738	40,833	41,710	2,752
* Includes funding for global polio & measles included in PHS	24,949						

** Best estimates based on materials available; numbers may change.

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Budget	House FY 2000 Mark	Senate FY 2000 Bill	Oct. 27 FY 2000 Conf. Bill	Nov. 12 Conference Agreement	Nov. 12 Conf. Agreement (+/-) Budget
Social Security Administration	6,426	6,706	6,481	6,674	6,579	6,592	-114
National Labor Relations Board	184	210	175	210	200	207	-3
Corp. for National Service	277	300	275	293	296	296	-4
Unofficial Bill Total*	**88,970**	**91,619**	**89,790**	**94,039**	**94,541**	**96,041**	**4,422**

*BRD has not yet calculated a bill total for the Nov. 12 conf. agreement - current value represents best estimate.

PROGRESS ON AMERICA'S PRIORITIES
November x, 1999

Nearly seven years ago, President Clinton put in place a bold new three-part economic strategy of cutting the deficit and paying down the debt; investing in education, health care, science and technology; and opening markets abroad. The final FY 2000 budget represents a significant step forward for this three part strategy and for America, providing for better schools, safer streets, and a cleaner environment. Although the final budget is clearly a win for President Clinton, Vice President Gore, and Congressional Democrats, and the American people, there is still much more work needed to address America's priorities.

Investing in Education and Training *[DPC prefers "Putting Education First"]*

After vetoing a Congressional budget that reneged on last year's bipartisan agreement to reduce Class Size and denied funding to priority education and training investments, President Clinton and Vice President Gore delivered on their ambitious education agenda.

✓ **More High-Quality Teachers With Smaller Class Sizes**: President Clinton's budget included the second installment of their plan to help reduce class size in the early grades by hiring 100,000 quality teachers. The President vetoed a Congressional budget that reneged on last year's bipartisan agreement, did not guarantee funding for 29,000 teachers hired last year, and would have allowed Class Size dollars to be used for virtually any activity – including vouchers – rather than hiring qualified teachers. The final budget enhances last year's teacher quality and flexibility provisions and provides $1.3 billion for Class Size Reduction, enough to stay on track to hire 100,000 teachers over the next 6 years.

✓ **Early Intervention To Help Disadvantaged Students Prepare for College:** House Republicans proposed to terminate the President's GEAR UP college preparation initiative for low-income students. The final budget increases funding for GEAR UP from $120 million in 1999 to $200 million to support State projects and partnerships of colleges, high-poverty schools, and community organizations, to help 482,000 students aspire to and prepare for college starting in the 7th grade.

✓ **Accountability for the Lowest Performing Schools:** In his State of the Union address, President Clinton insisted that "all states and school districts must turn around their worst-performing schools – or shut them down," and his Budget included funds to help states and school districts turn around their own failing schools. The final bill provides $134 million in Title I funds to help turn around the worst-performing schools and hold them accountable for results. In addition, the bill provides $7,807 million for the base program, Title I Grants to LEAs, an increase of $75 million over last year, to continue efforts to help disadvantaged students catch up with their peers.

✓ **More than Twice as Much Federal Support for After School:** In his State of the Union address, the President called for a large investment in after school and summer school programs to give children the extra help they need to meet high standards. The final budget more than doubles the federal investment in these programs to $453 million, to provide educational support to nearly 675,000 students – 375,000 more students than last year.

✓ **More Education Technology for Students:** The final budget triples funding for community-based technology centers to reach at least 120 low-income communities, provides $75 million to train new teachers in the use of technology, and provides $425 million to states and school districts to purchase computer hardware and educational software. Investment in educational technology has increased to $769 million, up from $698 million in 1999.

✓ **Making Schools Safe, Disciplined, and Drug-Free:** The budget agreement provides $606 million for school-based drug and violence prevention programs, including the President's $50 million request for the Coordinator Initiative, that would provide coordinators to plan, implement, and evaluate successful prevention programs in middle schools across the Nation. Additional resources are also provided for an expansion of the interagency Safe Schools / Healthy Students initiative, with HHS and DoJ.

✓ **Expanded Head Start:** President Clinton and Vice President Gore proposed a $607 million increase for Head Start to serve an additional 44,000 young children – and stay on track toward serving one million children by 2002. The House Republican budget did not provide the President's increase and would have denied over 40,000 children Head Start slots if enacted. The final budget includes the President's full increase for Head Start, which is funded at $5.3 billion. Head Start is our Nation's preeminent early childhood program. It helps disadvantaged students prepare early for success in school and is a key part of the strategy to ensure that all students begin school ready to learn and succeed academically.

✓ **Increasing Public School Choice Through Charter Schools:** The budget agreement provides $145 million for Public Charter Schools, an increase of $45 million over the FY 1999 enacted level. This will strengthen and expand public school choice by providing startup funding to as many as 2,400 charter schools next year, about 650 more schools than this year. The President has pledged to help start 3,000 charter schools across the country by early next century. When President Clinton and Vice President Gore were first elected in 1992, there was only one charter school operating in the Country. This year, more than 1,700 charter schools are operating, serving a diverse student body in more than 30 states. This remarkable growth is in large part due to the President's leadership and support for these innovative high quality schools.

✓ **Hispanic Education Agenda:** President Clinton's budget included an ambitious agenda to address the disproportionately low educational achievement and high dropout rates of Latino students. The final budget includes $436 million in increases for a number of education programs that help to improve the educational outcomes of Latinos and limited English proficient students, including Title I Grants to LEAs, Adult Education, Bilingual Education, and TRIO.

✓ **English Language/Civics Education Initiative**: The increase to Adult Education targets $25.5 million for the President's ESL/Civics Initiative, which would provide instruction in both English literacy and critical life skills necessary for effective citizenship and civic participation.

✓ **Largest Maximum Pell Grant Award Ever:** The final budget provides $7.7 billion for Pell Grants, increasing the maximum Pell Grant award from $3,125 to $3,300. The maximum award has increased 43 percent since President Clinton and Vice President Gore took office in 1993.

✓ **Support for One Million Students To Work Their Way Through College:** The President's budget requested $934 million for Federal Work-Study to fulfill his commitment to expand work-study to one million students in FY 2000. House Republicans initially provided only $880 million. The final budget provides the President's request and will give one million students the opportunity to earn money for college through part-time work.

✓ **Training for Dislocated Workers:** The final budget provides a $190 million increase for a total of $1.6 billion to provide much need training for dislocated workers. This increase is a step toward meeting the 5-year goal of the Universal Reemployment Initiative to provide training to every dislocated worker who wants and needs training.

Fighting Crime, Drugs, and Guns

To keep crime coming down to record lows, President Clinton and Vice President Gore fought for important investments in the budget to build on the Administration's successful community policing initiative, including funds to put more police on the street and critical resources to strengthen law enforcement efforts to keep communities safe.

✓ **More Police on the Streets:** In 1994, President Clinton and Vice President Gore won a commitment to put 100,000 police officers on the street. In his State of the Union Address, the President proposed a 21st Century crime plan to hire up to 50,000 more police officers by 2005. The final budget contains full funding for the first installment toward meeting this goal.

✓ **Law Enforcement Technology:** The final budget provides $230 million to provide law enforcement with the latest crime-fighting and crime-solving technology.

✓ **Community Prosecutors:** A $5 million increase to double the Administration's initiative to extend the success of community policing to local prosecutors.

✓ **Strengthened Gun Enforcement:** An increase of $12.6 million for more ATF agents to bolster federal law enforcement efforts against gun crime.

✓ **Youth and Guns:** Over $45 million for the President's Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative, to expand the initiative from 27 to 38 cities, trace more crime guns, and add more ATF agents to crack down on illegal gun traffickers who supply guns to juveniles and criminals.

✓ **Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign:** $185 million to continue the successful campaign to reach our youth with the message that drugs are wrong, dangerous and deadly.

Investing in a Cleaner Environment

President Clinton and Vice President Gore won significant gains for the environment in the fiscal year 2000 budget, including new resources to combat water pollution, protect wildlife, address global warming, and preserve precious lands across the country. At the same time, the President and Vice President forced Congress to drop or substantially modify dozens of anti-environmental riders that would have rolled back hard-won environmental safeguards and benefited special interests at the expense of our public lands.

✓ **Preserving Our Lands Legacy:** The President and Vice President won $651 million for Lands Legacy, an historic initiative that strengthens federal efforts to preserve natural treasures and provides communities with new resources to protect local green spaces. Lands Legacy funding, a 42 percent increase over last year, includes:

- $444 million for federal agencies to acquire and protect dozens of natural and historic sites around the country and off our coasts, including:
  - The full $101 million needed to purchase New Mexico's majestic Baca Ranch, home to one of North America's largest wild elk herds;
  - $78 million to acquire lands critical to the Administration's Everglades restoration strategy;
  - $26 million to manage and protect marine sanctuaries and coral reefs;
  - $15 million in matching funds to protect wilderness and other lands in the California Desert.
- $206 million for states and local governments to help communities preserve their farms, urban parks, coastal areas, and working forests.

✓ **Ensuring Clean Water and Healthy Communities:** The final budget secures $1.8 billion for the President's Clean Water Action Plan, a 9 percent increase, including increases to help reduce polluted runoff from large livestock operations. In addition, the Environmental Protection Agency budget provides $2.17 billion to help communities build or upgrade drinking water and sewage treatment plants, and $1.4 billion to continue progress toward cleaning up 900 Superfund sites by 2002.

✓ **Leading the Fight Against Global Warming:** The budget provides $1.1 billion for research and development of clean energy through the Climate Change Technology Initiative, including a 7 percent increase for energy efficiency investments to reduce pollution, create jobs, and save consumers money.

✓ **Saving Pacific Salmon:** The Administration secured $83 million to initiate two major new efforts to restore salmon in the Pacific Northwest: $58 million for states and tribes through the Administration's Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund; and $25 to implement an historic salmon treaty with Canada.

✓ **Fighting Congestion and Dirty Air:** The budget provides $8.2 billion, a 10 percent increase, for programs that reduce air pollution while increasing transportation choices. This includes increases of $407 million for public transit, and $278 million to help communities reduce congestion while improving air quality.

✓ **Defending Our Environment Against Stealth Attacks:** In addition to securing these major new environmental investments, President Clinton and Vice President Gore stood as the last line of defense against congressional efforts to attach anti-environmental riders to budget bills. These riders would have given special deals to special interests by: allowing overcutting of our national forests and jeopardizing the President's plan to protect more than 40 million acres of roadless areas; allowing mining companies to dump more toxic waste on public lands and delaying critical mining reforms; letting major oil companies continue paying below-market royalties on oil developed on federal lands; crippling critical protections for wetlands and wildlife; and attempting to block common-sense actions to reduce greenhouse gas pollution.

Maintaining America's Global Leadership

The Republican Congressional budget would have turned its back on America's leading role in the world by not providing for peace in the Middle East, leadership at the United Nations, economic development in the poorest countries, and efforts to halt the spread of nuclear weapons. The President fought for and secured victories to strengthen America's leading role in the world – by meeting our commitment to the Middle East peace process, paying our dues and arrears to the United Nations, making a critical investment in debt relief for impoverished countries, and funding efforts to safeguard nuclear weapons and expertise from the former Soviet Union.

✓ **Promoting Peace in the Middle East:** The Congress fully funded the President's $1.8 billion request arising out from Wye River Agreement, which is essential to promoting peace in the Middle East. As Israelis and Palestinians move ahead on an ambitious agenda to rapidly conclude a peace accord, this funding sends an important message of U.S. commitment to building a lasting peace.

✓ **Maintaining Leadership at the United Nations:** The budget allows the United States to pay the funds required to keep our vote in the General Assembly, encourage needed reforms at the UN, and repay $926 million in arrearages. By doing much to meet our obligations to the UN, the budget will preserve American influence within the organization and thereby help us advance our interests around the world. The bill passed by the House would have caused the United States to lose its vote in the General Assembly. It would have blocked our ability to pay our obligations and added new conditions that would have undermined our ability to achieve the UN reforms we are seeking.

✓ **Debt Relief for Poor Countries:** The bill provides $123 million to fund reduction of debts owed to the U.S. government by the poorest developing countries. This amount represents a substantial increase above the Foreign Operations conference agreement funding level ($33 million) and it is sufficient to finance U.S. participation over the next year ($110 million) in the bilateral debt aspect of the Cologne Debt Initiative. The debt relief package would help leverage $90 billion in debt relief for the world's poorest nations, letting them focus on providing basic needs for their own citizens instead of paying interest to international creditors. Unfortunately, the agreement omits appropriations for the U.S. contribution to the Heavily Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) Trust Fund, which will be necessary to fully finance the participation of multilateral development banks in the historic initiative to reduce poverty and stimulate economic growth in the world's poorest countries. We will work with Congress next year to secure this crucial funding.

✓ **Promoting International Development:** The bill provides $1.1 billion for the U.S. contribution to multilateral development banks including the World Bank and regional development banks. This amount represents an increase from the $895 million included in the Foreign Operations conference agreement; however, it remains lower than the Administration's original request of $1.4 billion.

✓ **Expanding Threat Reduction Activities in Russia and Other Former Soviet States**: The bill provide $xx for activities under the President's Expanded Threat Reduction Initiative (ETRI), aimed at reducing the threat that nuclear and other dangerous weapons and know-how spread from the former Soviet Union. Key aspects include increased assistance to facilitate enhanced export control – key to blocking transfers of sensitive technology, expertise, and equipment; programs to put former Soviet weapons scientists to work on beneficial civilian research projects; Russian troop withdrawals from Moldova and Georgia; and disposition of munitions in Transniestria.

✓ **Raising International Labor Standards and Protecting Workers:** The FY 2000 Budget includes $70 million for working with developing economies through the International Labor Organization (ILO), an increase of $30 million over FY 1999. These funds include $20 million to finance the creation of a new arm of the ILO to provide technical assistance to help countries implement core labor standards. The agreement also provides $10 million to fund bilateral technical assistance by the US Department of Labor to developing economies seeking to establish social safety net programs and design, implement and enforce labor market policies. In addition, Congress provided the State Department with sufficient funds to allow it to go forward with the President's initiative to support innovative efforts to eliminate sweatshops.

✓ **More Funding for President Clinton's Child Labor Initiative:** The Congress fully funded the President's request for $30 million for the ILO's International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC). In addition, Congress provided additional funds sought by the President to support enhanced customs enforcement of the ban on importation of goods made with forced or indentured child labor. Congress also provided sufficient funds to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to allow it to go forward with the President's new "School Works!" program, which will help developing countries provide educational alternatives to abusive child labor.

✓ **Raising International Labor Standards and Protecting Workers:** The FY 2000 Budget includes $70 million for working with developing economies through the International Labor Organization (ILO), an increase of $30 million over FY 1999. This increase will include $20 million to finance the creation of a new arm of the ILO to provide technical assistance to help countries implement core labor standards. The agreement also provides $10 million to fund bilateral technical assistance by the US Department of Labor to developing economies seeking to establish social safety net programs and design, implement and enforce labor market policies. In addition, Congress provided the State Department with sufficient funds to allow it to go forward with the President's initiative to support innovative efforts to eliminate sweatshops.

✓ **Improving Military Pay and Readiness:** The final bill fully funded the President's "trilogy" pay initiative which includes a significant pay raise, pay table reform, and a change in military retirement. The bill additionally funds fully all of our critical readiness programs (unit training, depot maintenance, recruiting, and spare purchases).

✓ **Maintaining America's Air Superiority:** The final bill restores most of the funding for the F-22, allowing the program to continue.

- ✓ **Continuing Chemical Demilitarization:** The final bill approves the higher funding level passed by the Senate (the House proposed cuts of $392 million), helping to meet our treaty deadlines under the Chemical Weapons Convention for destruction of chemical weapons.

Moving People from Welfare to Work and Empowering Communities

President Clinton and Vice President Gore are committed to tapping the potential of America's urban and rural communities. This budget moves forward on their vision to help revitalize America's communities.

- ✓ **Funding 60,000 New Housing Vouchers for America's Hard-Pressed Working Families:** The budget includes $347 million for 60,000 new housing vouchers for low-income families. The President's budget had requested 100,000 new vouchers (building on last year's level of 50,000) and the House and Senate-passed bills had approved zero funding. These vouchers will subsidize the rents of America's hard-pressed working families and the elderly, enabling families to move closer to economic opportunities.

- ✓ **Protecting Rent Subsidies for Low-Income Families:** The final budget includes $10.8 billion for the renewal of all Section 8 contracts, an increase of $1.2 billion from FY 1999. This will ensure continuation of HUD rental subsidies for low-income tenants in privately-owned housing.

- ✓ **Housing Assistance for Elderly and Disabled:** The final budget includes expansion of funding for affordable housing for the elderly and disabled by $911 million, $57 million above FY 1999, enabling about 30,000 people to have affordable housing. Also included was a *Housing Security Plan* for older Americans that recognizes the dramatic increase in our elderly population and the changing housing needs that accompany this demographic shift.

- ✓ **Increased Funding for Homeless Assistance:** The President and Vice President proposed a major expansion of HUD's continuum of care program, designed to help homeless persons obtain health care, jobs, and permanent housing. The final budget includes $1.02 billion in funds for the homeless assistance grants – a $__ million, or __ percent, increase over last year.

- ✓ **Extending the Work Opportunity Tax Credit:** This tax credit encourages employers to hire individuals who have traditionally had a hard time securing employment. Targeted groups include disadvantaged youth, including those living in empowerment zones and enterprise communities, welfare recipients, and qualified veterans. The maximum credit paid to the employer is as much as 40 percent of an individual's first $6,000 in wages. The President proposed to extend this credit in his FY 2000 budget and the final budget includes an extension through 2001.

- ✓ **Extending the Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit:** This tax credit encourages employers to hire certain long-term assistance recipients. The maximum credit to an employer is as much as 50 percent of wages, with a maximum credit of $8,500 per qualified employee. The President proposed to extend this credit in his FY 2000 budget and the final budget includes an extension through 2001.

✓ **Additional Funding for Empowerment Zones:** The budget provides $70 million in funding for Rural/Urban Empowerment Zones. The President's budget requested $165 million for next year – the House and Senate bills included no funding. All of the Urban and rural EZs (20 Zones) and rural enterprise communities (20 ECs) that were designated by the Vice President in January 1999 as Round II zones will receive funding.

✓ **Access to Jobs Transportation Funds**: The final budget includes $75 million to assist states and localities in developing flexible transportation alternatives, such as van services, to help former welfare recipients and other low income workers get to work.

✓ **Individual Development Accounts:** Since 1992, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have supported the creation of Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) to empower individuals to save for a first home, post-secondary education, or to start a new business. Last year, Congress passed legislation authorizing IDAs, and the final budget includes [$10] million for a second round of demonstration grants.

✓ **Continuing To Build a Network Of Community Development Banks Across the Nation:** The final budget includes $95 million for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund that will expand the capacity of the network of community development financial institutions across the country, spurring the flow of capital to distressed neighborhoods and low-income residents. The President's budget requested $125 million for the CDFI Fund – the House appropriated $70 million and the Senate appropriated $80 million. These added resources bring funding up to FY 1999 enacted levels.

✓ **More Home Delivered Meals:** President Clinton's budget included an additional $35 million for home-delivered meals, a 31 percent increase over last year's funding level. Hundreds of thousands of seniors with disabilities depend on nutritious home-delivered meals to help them remain in their homes. The final bill includes this increase to support the delivery of 146 million meals in FY 2000.

✓ **HUD Fair Housing.** The final budget includes $44 million for efforts to fight housing discrimination, a $4 million increase from last year's enacted level, as part of President Clinton and Vice President Gore's "One America" initiative. This amount includes $6 million to expand the audit-based fair housing enforcement initiative begun last year.

✓ **Keeping Community Service.** The VA/HUD bill includes $438.5 million for AmeriCorps, funding that will support nearly 50,000 AmeriCorps members in community service projects across the country. In 1999 the Corporation for National and Community Service received $438.5 million and in FY 2000, the President requested $548.5 million.

<u>Progress on the New Markets Initiative</u>

In his State of the Union, the President proposed to bring more private investment to all areas of the United States. The President and Congressional Leaders have pledged to work together to enact authorization for these programs as well as seek additional funding for the New Markets Tax Credit program. Although some programs have yet to be funded, the New Markets initiative enjoys bipartisan support.

✓ **Funding America's Private Investment Companies (APICs):** Provides $36.5 million of funding for APICs (subject to authorization), key elements of the President's New Markets Initiative, that would leverage $800 million of new investment in underserved areas.

✓ **New Markets Venture Capital Program:** $16.5 million in funding, subject to authorization, has been provided for the Administration's New Markets Venture Capital program. This includes $6 million in funding for the New Markets Capital program, which provides capital to untapped rural and urban new market areas; $1.5 million for BusinessLINC, which encourages large businesses to mentor small business owners; and $9 million for technical assistance to enhance the borrower's probability of success. This program exploits investment opportunities that are not presently being met by private lenders.

✓ **Authorization of the PRIME Program:** Congress-passed new legislation that included authorization of the PRIME Act, which will provide microenterprise technical assistance through competitive grants to micro-enterprise development organizations that focus on low-income entrepreneurs.

Addressing Health care

The President won a $34.5 billion investment in health programs, 11.7 percent above the FY 1999 enacted level, to strengthen the public health infrastructure, provide critical prevention and treatment services to individuals with mental illness, and advance biomedical research with a historic investment of $2.3 billion.

✓ **Increasing Access to Health Care for the Uninsured:** Fully funds the President's request of $25 million, making a down payment on the President's $1 billion investment in developing integrated systems of care for the uninsured. It also provides an additional $15 million to identify the best way to deliver health care services to this population.

✓ **Supporting Graduate Medical Education at Children's Hospitals:** Fully funds the President's request of $40 million to support graduate medical education at freestanding children's hospitals, which play an essential role in the education of the nation's pediatricians.

✓ **Caring for the Nation's Elderly.** Includes a $43.5 million increase for the new Nursing Home Initiative, only $1 million below the President's request, for more rigorous inspections of nursing facilities and improved federal oversight and enforcement of nursing home quality.

✓ **Improving States' Capacity to Deliver Health Care Services to the Mentally Ill:** Provides an additional $69 million above the FY 1999 funding level for the Mental Health Block Grant, a 27 percent increase over FY 1999 and the largest increase ever.

✓ **Preparing For and Preventing Bioterrorist Attacks:** Fully funds the President's request of $52 million to stockpile vaccines, antibiotics, and other medical supplies to deploy in the event of a chemical or biological terrorist attack.

✓ **Providing Family Planning Services:** Provides $24 million, an 11 percent increase over the FY 1999 budget, for family planning services for low income women.

✓ **Reducing Racial Disparities in Health Status:** Provides an additional $20 million, a 200 percent increase over the FY 1999 funding level for health education, prevention, and treatment services to address health disparities among minority populations.

✓ **Expanding AIDS Care, Prevention, and Research:** The Administration and Congress continue their strong partnership to address the AIDS epidemic with substantial increases in funding. Included in the bill are a $73 million **increase** in **funding for** HIV prevention activities to help stop the spread of this disease; an increase of $183 million in the Ryan White CARE Act, which helps provide primary care and support for those living with HIV/AIDS; and an estimated $300 million in additional funds for AIDS-related research at the NIH. Congress and the Administration also worked closely together to add $80 million in funding to the Minority AIDS Initiative, which utilizes existing programs to reach African-Americans, Latinos, and other racial and ethnic minorities that are disproportionately impacted by HIV/AIDS. Consistent with the President's request, an additional $100 million to fight AIDS internationally was funded. Finally, the Administration helped protect local authority over HIV prevention activities, successfully removing language from the District of Columbia appropriations bill that would have tied the hands of community health agencies in their ability to use needle exchange programs as part of their overall HIV prevention strategy.

✓ **Preventing Childhood Diseases:** Provides an additional $62 million, a 4 percent increase over FY 1999 funding levels to provide childhood immunizations nationwide and fully funds the President's request to eradicate polio worldwide.

✓ **Providing Critical Organ Transplants to Those Most In Need:** Permits the development of a more equitable allocation system for the over 63,000 Americans awaiting organ transplants, saving hundreds of lives a year.

✓ **First Time Funding For the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act:** Provides $75 million to for one-time payments of $100,000 to hemophiliacs who were infected with HIV by blood solids during the 1980s.

✓ **Controlling the Spread of Infectious Disease:** Provides $29 million to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), a 21 percent increase over the FY 1999 funding level, for programs dedicated to emerging infectious diseases and improving disease surveillance systems.

Responding to the Farm Crisis

The Agriculture Appropriations bill included $8.6 billion in emergency funds to assist our Nation's farmers and ranchers who are suffering through the second year in a row of low commodity prices and, for many, crop and livestock losses from severe drought and flooding. The bill doubled annual payments to farmers of major grain crops to about $11 billion. The emergency funds include $400 million to help subsidize the cost of crop insurance premiums and $325 million for livestock and dairy assistance. In addition, the Administration secured an additional $2.5 billion in farm loans in final negotiations, as well as $186 million more for nationwide crop losses – bringing total crop loss funds to nearly $1.4 billion, as well as $130 million to clear farm fields and streams of debris left by flooding. The President and Vice President remain concerned that Congress did not address the underlying issues that exist in the wake of Freedom to Farm legislation and that more needs to be done.

A Strong Research and Development Agenda

For six years in a row, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have proposed substantial increases in the Federal government's research and development portfolio to build a healthier, more prosperous, and productive future. The President's budget included an unprecedented commitment to key civilian research. The final budget increases the President's "21st Century Research Fund" for civilian research programs by more than $3 billion.

✓ **National Science Foundation**: A 6.6 percent increase in support for science and engineering research and education, including $126 million for the Administration's "Information Technology for the 21st century" initiative. The NSF supports nearly half of the non-medical basic research conducted at universities.

✓ **National Institutes of Health**: Provides $2.3 billion, a 15 percent increase over FY 1999 funding levels, to build on the President's commitment to biomedical research as a foundation for combating disease and advancing medical technologies.

✓ **Information Technology**: The final budget includes more than $80 million in funding for the Next Generation Internet, which is connecting more than 100 universities at speeds that are up to 1,000 times faster than today's Internet. It also includes $235 million for the Administration's "Information Technology for the 21st Century" initiative, which will strengthen America's leadership in the high-tech industries of the future, and accelerate the pace of discovery in all science and engineering disciplines. Currently, IT industries account for 1/3 of U.S. economic growth.

✓ **Defense Research**: Department of Defense (DOD) support for basic and applied research is up almost 8 percent. DOD is a leading supporter of basic research in computer sciences, mathematics, oceanography, and most engineering disciplines.

✓ **Increases in Science at Department of Energy**: Science Programs increased $117 million. DOE, the principal supporter of the Federal investment in the physical sciences, has supported research that has resulted in over 60 Nobel prizes. DOE's scientific user facilities are used by more than 15,000 scientists to conduct frontier scientific research, and provide the next generation of scientists and engineers.

✓ **Advanced Technology Program**: President Clinton's FY 2000 budget continues to fund ATP's research and development into cutting-edge high-technologies. While the House proposed eliminating the program, the final budget will allow ATP funding for an additional $51 million in new awards. ATP supports the development of high-risk technologies that promise significant commercial payoffs and widespread economic benefits.

✓ **NASA - Investing in Our Future:** The budget includes $13.65 billion for NASA, an additional $100 million. The funding levels passed by the House would have cut the NASA budget by almost $1 billion. These investments offer the potential of new scientific breakthroughs through an aggressive robotic series of exploration missions into the solar system, as well as enhancing our ability to monitor important changes in the earth's climate system, and strengthening aviation safety for the travelling public.

✓ **Extending the Research and Experimentation Tax Credit:** President Clinton proposed to extend the research tax credit because it provides incentives for private sector investment in research and innovation that can help increase America's economic competitiveness and enhance U.S. productivity. The final budget extends this research tax credit until 2004.

Other Highlights

✓ **Expanding Civil Rights Enforcement:** Funding for the Civil Rights Division of Justice was expanded from $69 million in FY 1999 to $82 million in FY 2000 – a 19 percent increase. Funding for HUD fair housing programs is increased $4 million.

✓ **Nutrition for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):** The final budget provides over $4 billion for nutrition assistance to 7.4 million women, infants, and children through the WIC program, an increase of $108 million over FY 1999. The additional funds will allow the program to provide a monthly package of nourishing supplemental foods, nutrition education, and health care referrals to 7.4 million low-income women, infants, and children who are at nutritional risk.

✓ **Largest Increase In Family Planning Services Since 1993:** The President won a nearly $25 million increase for Title X family planning, the largest increase since 1993, bringing the program to almost $240 million for FY 99. These grants fund family planning clinics providing reproductive health services and clinical care to over 5 million low-income women.

✓ **President's Food Safety Initiative:** The bill provides an increase of $59 million for the President's Food Safety Initiative, which will fund enhanced domestic and imported food safety inspections; increased outbreak response and traceback work; and expanded research, risk assessment and education activities. In addition, this increase will fund enhanced Federal-State inspection partnerships, bioscience research, and Risk Assessment modeling and data collection to include the pre-harvest phase for all foods.

✓ **Boosting Funding for Natural Disasters Such as Hurricane Floyd:** So that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) can continue its efforts to help victims of Hurricane Floyd, the bill includes $2.5 billion in contingent emergency disaster program funds, including $215 million for FEMA to address unmet needs resulting from the hurricane primarily tho households whose homes are now uninhabitable and $821 million in regular appropriations to ensure that the Country is well-prepared to deal with unforeseen natural disasters.

- ✓ **The Final Bill Strengthens Enforcement of Labor Protections.** The final bill provides key funding increases for worker protection programs including Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) oversight of employee pension and health plans, enforcement of wage and hour laws, and the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). The final total of $1.3 billion is $105 million (9 percent) above the FY 1999 enacted level. As a result of these increases, OSHA will conduct approximately 3,000 more compliance inspections thereby increasing the safety and health of our Nation's workers, particularly those in high-hazard industries. In addition, the Department of Labor also will be able to implement new health care laws effectively and encourage equal pay practices that will benefit our workers.

- ✓ **Ensuring That American Families Continue to Benefit From Tax Credits:** The budget ensures that Americans to take full advantage of their personal credits like Hope scholarships and child credits, without restriction by the alternative minimum tax. The final budget extends these rules for the alternative minimum tax through 2001.

DESPITE ALL THE PROGRESS IN THIS YEAR'S BUDGET, THERE IS STILL MORE WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

November x, 1999

In the waning days of the session, the President and Congressional Democrats prevailed in making critical investments to advance the President's comprehensive education agenda, put more police on the streets, protect the environment, and strengthen America's leading role in the world. Much work remains for the future.

× **Passing Common Sense Gun Legislation:** While the Administration's successful strategy of keeping guns out of the hands of fugitives, felons, and children has contributed to record declines in crime, recent tragic shootings reinforce the need to protect American families from gun violence. For months, Congress has failed to enact common-sense gun legislation. Congress must pass a bipartisan juvenile crime bill that includes strong gun measures to: close the gun show loophole; require child safety locks for handguns; ban the importation of large capacity ammunition clips; and bar violent juveniles from owning guns for life.

× **Passing a Strong, Enforceable, Patients' Bill of Rights:** For over two years, the American people have been waiting for Congress pass a strong, enforceable Patients Bill of Rights. During that time, the President has exercised his executive authority to extend critical patient protections to over 85 million Americans. The House passed such legislation earlier this year, but the Republican leadership is preventing an open debate on it in conference. The President continues to urge the Congress to recommit to passing this legislation and prevent another year from passing without action on this important issue.

× **Reducing Youth Smoking:** President Clinton and Vice President Gore have made passage of comprehensive tobacco legislation to reduce youth smoking a top priority, in order to stop kids from smoking before they start through a significant price increase, measures to prevent tobacco companies from marketing to children, and critical public health prevention and education programs. Congressional Republicans have acted as politicians instead of parents, and killed this year's effort to increase the excise tax on cigarettes by 55 cents a pack. Public health experts agree that the single most effective way to cut youth smoking is to raise the price of cigarettes.

× **[Eliminating Barriers to Work for People with Disabilities:** Since 1998, the President has advocated for the passage of the bipartisan Jeffords-Kennedy-Roth-Moynihan Work Incentives Improvement Act, which gives people with disabilities the ability to maintain their Medicare and Medicaid coverage when they go to work. He included a similar proposal in his FY 2000 budget. Under current law, people with disabilities often become ineligible for Medicaid or Medicare if they work, forcing many to choose between health care and employment. This proposal received overwhelming bipartisan support in both the House and Senate, but was defeated by partisan politics.]

× **Providing for Long-term Care Assistance for the Those Chronic Illnesses and Their Families:** At the beginning of this year, the President proposed a new, $6 billion initiative to address complex long-term care needs, including an unprecedented $1,000 tax credit that compensates Americans with long-term care needs of all ages or the family caregivers who support them for their formal or informal costs and a new National Family Caregivers Support Program that provides a range of critical services such as respite, home care services, and information and referral. Many members of Congress, on a bipartisan basis, introduced similar proposals, but despite this, the Congress failed to respond and lost an opportunity to provide critical assistance for this population.

× **Providing Health Options for Older Americans:** In the FY 1999 and FY 2000 budgets, the President proposed an initiative to expand health options available for older Americans by: enabling Americans aged 62 to 65 to buy into Medicare, by paying a full premium; providing vulnerable displaced workers ages 55 and older access to Medicare by offering those who have involuntarily lost their jobs and their health care coverage a similar Medicare buy-in option; providing Americans ages 55 and older whose companies reneged on their commitment to provide retiree health benefits a new health option, by extending "COBRA" continuation coverage until age 65. Despite the fact that the number of uninsured Americans aged 55 to 65 is growing faster than any other age group, Congress refused to act on this proposal.

× **Encouraging Small Businesses to Offer Health Insurance:** An initiative in the FY 2000 budget proposed an encouragement for small businesses to offer health insurance to their employees through: a new tax credit for small businesses who decide to offer coverage by joining coalitions; encouraging private foundations to support coalitions by allowing their contributions towards these organizations to be tax exempt; offering technical assistance to small business coalitions from the Office of Personnel Management. Today, the President urged Congress to provide new health insurance options for these vulnerable Americans.

× [**Continuing the Help People Move From Welfare to Work:** In January the President proposed to invest an additional $1 billion in the Welfare-to-Work program and to reauthorize the program with several changes including helping more low-income fathers work and support their children. The Congress enacted eligibility changes similar to those proposed by the Administration to allow states, tribes and communities to more effectively serve low-income fathers and hard-to-employ welfare recipients, but failed to provide any new funding.]

× **Raising the Minimum Wage:** The Congress has failed to pass a clean, straightforward bill to increase the minimum wage by $1 over two years – a step that would simply restore it to the 1982 inflation-adjusted level. Instead, the Senate attached the minimum wage increase to fiscally irresponsible tax giveaways for special interests. More than 11 million workers would benefit from a $1 increase in the minimum wage. A full-time, year-round worker at the minimum wage would get a $2,000 raise – enough for a typical family of four to buy groceries for 7 months or pay rent for 5 months.

× **Strengthening Social Security:** The President has put forth a specific proposal to use the benefits of fiscal discipline and debt reduction to strengthen Social Security, extending its solvency from 2034 to 2050. This would be a down payment on truly saving Social Security. The Republican so-called "lockbox" legislation would not add a single day to the life of Social Security.

× **Modernizing and Strengthening Medicare:** Although members of both parties joined the President in the effort to adjust Medicare health care provider payments, Congress otherwise failed to address the growing challenges that Medicare faces. With the number of beneficiaries expected to double over the next 30 years, Medicare needs adequate resources and the tools to be as efficient as possible. A long-overdue prescription drug benefit option is also essential for seniors and people with disabilities.

× **Expanding Trade and Providing Opportunity for Africa and the Caribbean Basin:** Congress should complete work on the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act and the Caribbean Basin legislation -- crucial to strengthening our economic ties with aran Africa and our Caribbean and Central American neighbors. This legislation would help increase trade, enhance opportunity, and boost growth in America and nations in Africa, the Caribbean, and Central America. The President called for the rapid passage of the Africa legislation in the State of the Union address and has pressed the case for these bills several times since. The House passed this legislation overwhelming earlier this summer, but the legislation is now awaiting Conference action.

× **Supporting Southeast Europe's Economic Development and Integration**: Congress should pass the Southeast Europe Trade Preference Act submitted by the President, which would authorize expansion of duty-free treatment to a broad range of imports from the region for five years. This initiative is an important part of the Stability Pact launched by the President and other leaders last July, and is designed to strengthen stability and prevent further conflict in the Balkans by facilitating long-term economic growth.

× **Promoting Peacekeeping**: While the budget goes along way in meeting the anticipated requirements for funding UN peacekeeping operations around the world, the Congress did not fund the full requests. The shortage will threatens to undermine fragile peace processes around the world or to incur additional UN arrears. To promote peace and encourage burden-sharing, Congress should fully-fund UN peacekeeping efforts.

× **Expanding Federal Hate Crimes Laws:** At a time when our leaders should be doing all they can to bring Americans together, the Congress has refused to enact legislation to punish hate crimes. The President has called for a bill that would make it easier to prosecute crimes based on race, color, religion and national origin; and that would also include crimes based on sexual orientation, gender and disability. Congress should take a strong stand against intolerance and hatred by enacting such legislation without further delay.

× **Funding Civil Rights Enforcement Agencies:** Congress failed to provide much needed funding for the civil rights enforcement agencies. Despite all the good work that the EEOC has done to try to reduce its private-sector backlog in the last year, Congress has failed to provide the funding which would allow the EEOC to meet its announced goal of reducing the backlog of cases to 28,000 by the end of 2000. In addition, despite the fact that women still earn only approximately 75 percent of what men earn, Congress has failed to fully fund the Administration's Equal Pay Initiative which would increase compliance with equal pay laws. Finally, the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division did not receive sufficient funding to significantly expand investigations and prosecutions of criminal civil rights cases (including hate crimes and police misconduct), fair housing and lending cases, and violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

- **Enacting Comprehensive Campaign Finance Reform:** This year, the Congress failed once again to adopt real, meaningful reform of our campaign finance system. Although the House passed a bipartisan reform plan, a minority of the Senate blocked further action and left unchecked the influence of moneyed special interests. The President will continue to fight for comprehensive campaign finance reform and believes that the Senate should act to restore the public's faith in our political process.

- **Child Care Initiative**. In his State of the Union, the President proposed an historic child care initiative to make child care better, safer and more affordable for America's working families. The President's proposal included $7.5 billion over 5 years for child care subsidies for low-income working families, and tax credits to help millions of working families pay for child care. The Republican Majority has refused to support these critical investments.

  - **Farm Assistance**. Although the President was pleased to get $8.6 billion in emergency assistance to farmers and ranchers, he remains concerned that Congress did not address the underlying issues that exist in the wake of Freedom to Farm legislation. For example, most of the assistance is not targeted to farmers who need it most, but is available to farmers, both large and small, whether they have suffered particular difficulty this year or not.

- **Providing Fairness to Immigrant Families.** Congress has failed to take action to provide fairness to immigrant families by restoring important disability, health and nutrition benefits to additional categories of legal immigrants, restructuring the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), approving bipartisan legislation to support the process of democratization and stabilization now underway in Central America and Haiti and ensure equitable treatment for migrants from these countries, or changing the registry date to permit long-term migrants to adjust their status.

- **Continuing the Empower Communities:** While the President and Vice President succeeded in obtaining $70 million, this is only a portion of the second years funding for the Round II Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities designated by the Vice President. The revitalization strategies of these communities will be impeded in implementing their vision with a $110 million shortfall for the balance of this fiscal year's funding. And, there remains eight years worth of investment and leverage that is still needed from the Congress for these communities to be given their best chance of being successful.

Talking Points on Education
November 9, 1999

Overall:

- The President has proposed a comprehensive agenda to raise student achievement by investing in proven strategies such as reducing class sizes in the early grades, increasing teacher quality, extending learning time through summer school and afterschool programs, and turning around failing schools.

- We can't look at these proposals in isolation; only a comprehensive approach will ensure that all students receive the high quality education they need.

Class Size:

- Last year, Congress came together across party lines to make a down payment of $1.2 billion on the President's class size reduction initiative. At the time, Republican leaders praised the proposal. Now they are seeking to gut this program. The Republican spending bill abandons the commitment to hire 100,000 teachers to reduce class size, and provides no guarantee that the 29,000 teachers already hired can continue teaching. It also provides no funding for the additional 8,000 teachers the President's plan would support this year.

- According to a new Department of Education report, the President's class size program has benefited 1.7 million students in just one year. In schools receiving assistance from the program, average class size in grades one to three has been reduced from 23 to 18, and 29,000 teachers have been hired in the first year alone.

- Research shows that reducing class sizes in the early grades increases student performance and that the benefits last into high school. Teachers support smaller classes because they can spend more time with students which increases learning and decreases discipline problems.

- Republicans argue that there should be more flexibility in this program and that districts should be able to spend it on whatever they like. That sounds appealing in theory, but in practice, flexibility doesn't lower class size in a single class. Parents, teachers and communities all support smaller classes. Our program dedicates funds for precisely this goal; the Republican proposal does not. We must make targeted investments in what works rather than spending education dollars in totally unfocused ways.

Q&A:

Q: **I'm having a hard time understanding the Administration's argument here why should this money only be spent on class size, and why shouldn't local districts have the option of spending it on whatever they think best?**

A: First of all, this money is not for just class size: school districts have the option of spending a portion of it on professional development and increasing teacher quality. Second, what local school districts say emphatically is that they want funds to continue reducing class size. They know that this approach pays dividends and they want these targeted investments. If we are serious about reducing class size by hiring high quality teachers, then we have to target our money for that purpose.

Q: **So you're saying that in this case, "Washington knows best"?**

A: The federal government spends a limited amount of money on education, about 7 of all spending on schools. Because we spend so little we must spend it wisely, and we know that reducing class size is a wise way to spend our money. In other parts of our budget, we do provide resources to schools for other needs including technology, after school and summer school, and keeping schools safe and drug free. This fight isn't about what local school districts spend their money on, it's about Republicans trying to score political points.

PRESIDENT CLINTON CALLS ON CONGRESS TO BUILD ON THE SUCCESS OF THE CLASS SIZE REDUCTION INITIATIVE

November 8, 1999

Today, President Clinton will release a new report from the U.S. Department of Education highlighting the benefits of smaller classes. Citing the initial success of his class size reduction initiative, the President will urge Congress to honor its commitment to hire 100,000 high-quality teachers to reduce class size to a national average of 18 in the early grades, where children learn to read and master the basics. The President noted that in addition to gutting the class size initiative, Republican budget plans would cause devastating cuts in other key education initiatives including efforts to turn around failing schools, improve teacher quality, and expand after-school and summer school programs.

CLASS SIZE REDUCTION IS SUCCEEDING ACROSS THE COUNTRY
Last week the President released a report from the Council of the Great City Schools that illustrated the success that the nation's largest school districts are having with class size reduction. The U.S. Department of Education report, *Local Success Stories Reducing Class Size,* that the President will release today shows the positive impact that the program is having nationwide. Among other finding, the report shows that 1.7 million children nationwide have benefited from the program and that average grade 1-3 class size in schools receiving assistance has been reduced to 18. In addition the report describes how the program is complementing innovative state and local efforts to reduce class size and again proves that the program is targeted enough to accomplish its goals while being flexible enough to accommodate varying local needs. In concert with the President's class size reduction initiative, 20 states are also reducing class sizes in the early grades.

INVESTING IN WHAT WORKS FOR OUR SCHOOLS.
The class size reduction initiative is part of the President's comprehensive approach to improving student achievement by investing in what works, raising standards, increasing accountability, improving teacher quality and targeting help to schools and students with the greatest need. Today's report demonstrates that federal class size reduction funds are an integral part of these efforts. As the report notes, a substantial body of research involving large-scale, carefully controlled experiments shows that lowering class size in the early grades produces significant and lasting benefits for students. Smaller classes allow teachers to spend more time on instruction and less time on discipline problems. Teachers say they are able to get to know their students better, and can provide more individualized instruction to meet their learning needs. Research demonstrates that students attending small classes in the early grades make more rapid educational progress than students in larger classes, that these achievement gains persist well after students move on to larger classes in later grades, and that disadvantaged students benefit most from smaller classes.

REPUBLICANS MUST STOP PLAYING PARTISAN GAMES WITH EDUCATION Congressional Republicans are unable to put aside partisan politics and invest in what works for our children's education. Last year, Congress came together across party lines to make a down payment of $1.2 billion on the President's class size reduction initiative. In fact, at the time, Republican leaders praised the proposal. Now, in their education appropriation bill they have gutted this program and are trying to score political points rather than doing what is right for our nation's schoolchildren. Today, the President will call on Congress to keep its commitment to finish the job of hiring high-quality teachers to give our children the smaller classes they need to succeed.

REPUBLICAN SPENDING BILL SHORTCHANGES OUR SCHOOLS: The Republican education spending bill:

- Abandons their commitment to hire 100,000 teachers to reduce class size, and provides no guarantee that the 29,000 teachers hired for this year can continue teaching. It also provides no funding for the additional 8,000 teachers the President's plan would support this year.
- Fails to hold schools accountable for results by providing no funds to turn around failing schools;
- Underfunds after-school and summer programs, denying at least 800,000 students access to a safe place to learn during after-school hours when most juvenile crime and drug and alcohol abuse occur;
- Shortchanges teacher quality and recruitment programs;
- Eliminates the Troops to Teachers program that enables retired military personnel to teach in high-need areas;
- Underinvests in the GEAR-UP program and in educational technology, denying more than 130,000 disadvantaged young people the help they need to get into college, and undermining crucial investments in education technology;

President Clinton Vetoes The Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations Bill

November 3, 1999

Today the President will announce that he has vetoed the Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2000. He will cite Congress' failure to provide critical investments in education and the across-the-board cuts made by the bill in such critical areas as defense, veterans' programs, education, environmental protection, and law enforcement.

The President will call on the Congress to work in a bipartisan way with the Administration to enact a budget that meets the education, environmental, law enforcement, and foreign policy priorities he has called for throughout the year. He will also urge the Congress to enact a number of other critical measures they have failed to complete, including an increase in the minimum wage, the Jeffords-Kennedy bill, common-sense gun legislation, and the Patients' Bill of Rights.

Congress' Labor/HHS/Education Bill Guts Critical Investments

- **Guts Investment in Accountability, Teacher Quality and Class Size Reduction.** The bill provides no funding for class size reduction and fails to address teacher training issues. The bill turns these programs into a block grant that could be spent on vouchers and other unspecified activities. By failing to fund class size reduction this bill does not guarantee that the more than 29,000 teachers hired last year can continue teaching in smaller classes and eliminates funding for an additional 8,000 teachers that would be hired under the President's Budget for next year. The bill also fails to invest in proven teacher professional development practices.

- **Guts Investment in Title I Grants** Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act currently provides much-needed academic support to nearly 12 million children in high-poverty communities. The bill provides $189 million less than the President's budget for Title I. As a result, 300,000 fewer children in high poverty communities would receive additional educational services. Title I funding is a key component of efforts to help disadvantaged students reach high standards. The bill also fails to provide language needed to implement the President's plan to set aside 2.5 percent of Title I funds to help states and localities turn around or reconstitute failing schools using Title I resources.

- **Underfunds GEAR UP** GEAR UP is a nation-wide initiative to encourage more young people to have high expectations, stay in school, study hard, and take the right courses to go to college. The bill provides $180 million, $60 million below the President's Budget. Nearly 131,000 fewer low-income students would receive services in FY 2000, compared to the President's request. The President's Budget extends GEAR-UP services to over 570,000 students in FY 2000.

- **Guts Investment in After School** The bill provides only $300 million of the President's $600 million request for After School programs, resulting in nearly 400,000 fewer students being served than would be served under the President's Budget. If the President's proposed matching provision were included, it would serve 800,000 fewer. After-school programs are one of the most effective ways to help students reach high academic standards and end harmful practices such as social promotion.

- **Bill Underfunds Investment in Educational Technology** The bill provides $60 million less than the President's request of $801 million for a variety of innovative educational technology programs. Funds to help all states and thousands of school districts buy hardware and software, train teachers, and link up to the Internet were cut by $25 million. Funding to establish up to 300 Community Technology Centers was slashed from $65 million to $10 million.

- **Threatens Enforcement of Labor Protections** The bill level results in an effective freeze for Department of Labor domestic workplace enforcement programs, resulting in a $51 million reduction below the President's request. For example, OSHA is cut $25 million below the President's budget. As a result of this cut, some 2,200 fewer OSHA compliance inspections would be performed.

- **Cuts the Social Service Block Grant (SSBG)** The bill cuts SSBG by $209 million below FY 1999, and by $680 million below the President's request. SSBG serves some of the most vulnerable families in the Nation, with child protection and child welfare services for millions of children.

- **Eliminates the President's Family Caregiver Support Program** The bill does not include funds for the President's $125 million new initiative to support those who care for the over 5 million elderly Americans who have long term care needs.

- **Compromises Quality Healthcare** Inadequate funding for public health would compromise our efforts to vaccinate children, detect infectious diseases, prevent the spread of AIDS, and respond to bioterrorism. The bill fails to fund our efforts to bring more healthcare to the growing ranks of the uninsured. It fails to respond to the aging of America by not funding the family caregiver program and inadequately funding our nursing home quality initiative. It freezes critical programs that provide mental health, substance abuse, and family planning services to vulnerable Americans. Finally, it contains unacceptable health riders, including the delay of a critical regulation that would improve the distribution of organs. The bill cuts public health priorities, including preventive health, mental health and substance abuse, health care access for the poor, and efforts to reduce racial health disparities and the spread of AIDS worldwide. The bill would postpone payments to research universities, public health clinics and other grantees rendering it impossible to administer certain critical programs of the NIH and the CDC. The bill fails to adequately fund the training of children's health specialists.

Legislation Contains Harmful Across-the-Board Cuts in Critical Priority Areas

The Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill vetoed by the President today contained an across-the-board spending cut which would have resulted in damaging, indiscriminate cuts in priority areas, including defense, veterans' programs, education, law enforcement, and the environment. For example, it would have:

Forced the loss of as many as 48,000 military personnel

Reduced veterans' medical care by $184 million

Resulted in over 1.3 million fewer meals being delivered to elderly persons in poor health in the Meals on Wheels program

Deprived 71,000 women, infants, and children of food and nutrition assistance under the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program

Deprived nearly 3,000 children of receiving the full complement of childhood immunizations; and

Required the FBI, INS, and DEA to cut the number of agents by a total of more than 300.

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PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE
INVESTING IN EDUCATION: INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

"Our administration has made education a high priority, focusing on standards, accountability and choice in public schools, and on making a college education available to every American -- with increased Pell Grant scholarships, better student loan and work-study programs, and the HOPE scholarship and other tax credits to help families pay for college tuition. Because of these efforts, more young people have the chance to make the most of their God-given abilities, and take their place in the high-tech world of the 21st century."

-- President Bill Clinton, August 7, 1999

Supporting Quality Education for All of Our Children

- **Largest Investment in Education in Thirty Years.** President Clinton and Vice President Gore have been committed to maintaining our nation's investment in education. The Clinton-Gore Administration enacted the largest investment in education in 30 years – and the largest investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill.

- **Providing Early Education to 835,000 Children with Head Start.** Head Start gives children a good start in life by providing comprehensive developmental services for low-income children ages three to five and social services for their families. More than 200,000 more children are enrolled in Head Start today than in 1992.

- **Modernizing Our Schools.** The President and Vice President have proposed federal tax credits to pay the interest on nearly $25 billion in state and local bonds to modernize and rebuild up to 6,000 public schools that are overcrowded, out-of-date, and unsafe.

  - A record 52.7 million children are enrolled in elementary and secondary schools today, and this number will climb to 54.3 million by 2008. At least 2,400 new public schools will be needed by 2003 to accommodate rising enrollment and relieve overcrowding.

- **Keeping Schools Safe and Drug-Free.** Championed the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program, which supports initiatives to reduce drug, alcohol and tobacco use, and violence in our nation's schools, through education and prevention. In October 1994, President Clinton signed into law the Gun-Free Schools Act, and issued a Presidential Directive to enforce "zero tolerance" for guns in schools. More than 6,000 students were expelled from public schools for bringing a firearm to school in one year under zero tolerance policies.

  - In 1998, President Clinton signed into law the ***Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative***, an unprecedented joint effort involving the Departments of Education, Justice, and Health and Human Services to help communities design and implement comprehensive educational, mental health, social service, law enforcement and juvenile justice services for youth. In September 1999, President Clinton announced more than $100 million in grants through the initiative to support school districts in linking community-based services and prevention activities into one community-wide approach to violence prevention and healthy child development.

- **National Campaign Against Youth Violence.** In August 1999, President Clinton announced the formation of an independent, national campaign to address the problem of youth violence. The Campaign will work to secure commitments from all sectors of society to do their part to reduce violence and help give parents more tools to protect their children from violence. The Campaign has already launched a major anti-violence media campaign, supported anti-violence concerts, town hall meetings, in- and after-school programs, and highlighted effective youth violence initiatives in cities across the country.

- **Providing Safe After-School Opportunities 400,000 Students Each Year.** The President and Vice President expanded the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CLCs) program to enable schools to stay open longer, providing safe and educational after-school opportunities for 400,000 school-age children in rural and urban communities each year.

    - CLCs provide a safe place for homework centers, intensive mentoring in basic skills, drug and violence prevention counseling, helping middle school students to prepare to take college prep courses in high school, enrichment in the core academic subjects, recreational activities, technology education programs and services for children with disabilities.

- **Expanding Access to Education Technology.** Under the Vice President's leadership, the Clinton-Gore Administration has made expanded access to education technology a top priority. They created the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund to help connect every school to the Internet by 2000, increase the number of multimedia computers in the classroom and provide technology training for teachers. Increased overall investments in educational technology by thirty-fold, from $23 million in 1993 to $698 million this year. Secured low-cost connections (the E-Rate) to the Internet for schools, libraries, rural health clinics and hospitals.

    - In the fall of 1998, 89 percent of public schools were connected to the Internet. In 1994, only 35 percent of public schools were connected. And 51 percent of instructional rooms in public schools have Internet connections in 1998, double the number that were connected in 1997.

- **Strengthening Educational Accountability and Excellence.** 11 million low-income students now benefit from extra support to meet high expectations and challenging standards because of increased funding for the Title I program and reforms proposed and signed into law by President Clinton in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This year, President Clinton has proposed building on this progress with further strengthening accountability in these federal programs, improving teacher quality, increasing school safety, expanding public school choice, and providing extra support through summer-school, after-school and other programs to help students master the basics and reach challenging academic standards. The reauthorization will also support teacher education programs that develop the ability of regular classroom teachers to teach limited English proficient (LEP) students.

- **Getting Good Teachers to Underserved Areas.** Created new teacher quality initiatives that will help recruit and prepare thousands of teachers to teach in high-poverty urban and rural communities and will strengthen teacher preparation programs across the country.

- **Expanding Investments In Youth Education And Training**. While House Republicans attempted to eliminate the successful Summer Jobs program in FY99, President Clinton prevailed with his request for $871 million in funding, which will finance up to 530,000 summer jobs for disadvantaged youth. The Youth Opportunity Area Initiative program provides high school dropouts between the ages of 16 and 24 with academic and job-skills training, as well as apprenticeships building and rehabilitating affordable housing. The President proposed and won $250 million for this new innovative program in the FY99 budget.

Helping Children Learn to High Standards

- **More High-Quality Teachers with Smaller Class Sizes.** Research proves that children learn more in smaller classes – particularly in the early years. Small classes allow children to receive more individual attention from teachers; acquire a solid foundation for future learning; and learn to read independently by the end of third grade. President Clinton and Vice President Gore won a downpayment on their new initiative to hire an additional 100,000 well-prepared teachers, helping school districts reduce class size in the critical early grades.

    - In 1998, $1.2 billion was provided through the Class Size Reduction Initiative to help states hire approximately 30,000 new teachers for fall 1999.

- **Teaching Every Child to Read by the Third Grade.** More than 1,000 colleges have committed Work Study students to tutor children in reading, and thousands of AmeriCorps members and senior volunteers are organizing volunteer reading campaigns. Won $260 million for a new child literacy initiative, consistent with the President's America Reads proposal. The FY2000 budget includes funding to continue the Clinton-Gore Administration Reading Excellence program – helping to train reading tutors and coordinating after-school, weekend, and summer reading programs linked to in-school instruction; helping rain teachers to teach reading; and helping parents help children prepare to learn to read. In August 1999, 17 states received grants through this program.

> ➢ The Department of Education hosted a Reading Summit in December 1998, gathering more than 500 education leaders from across the country to focus on the urgent need to increase child literacy.

- **Helping Students to Master Mathematics by the Eighth Grade.** President Clinton issued a Presidential Directive to the Department of Education and the National Science Foundation to work together to devise an action strategy for helping students to improve in mathematics. This joint effort led to the creation of America Counts, an initiative to ensure that all students master challenging mathematics, including the foundations of algebra and geometry, by the end of the 8th grade.

- **Striving for Excellence with National Education Standards.** President Clinton has challenged every state to adopt high standards, and, by 1999, to test every 4th grade student in reading and 8th grade student in math so that parents, students, and teacher can tell if students are meeting high standards. Fifteen of the nation's largest urban school districts, as well as six states and the Department of Defense schools have joined the President's effort. The National Assessment Governing Board is developing voluntary national tests for the 4th and 8th grades, and the National Academy of Sciences is conducting studies on these tests.

- **Goals 2000.** The National Standards and Testing effort builds upon the success of Goals 2000, President Clinton's education reform initiative enacted in 1994, which helps States establish standards of excellence for all children, and plan and implement steps to raise educational achievement. Communities in every state receive Goals 2000 funds and are using these funds to upgrade the curriculum, improve teaching, increase parental involvement in schools, and make greater use of computers in the classroom.

- **Expanding Choice and Accountability in Public Schools.** Supported the increase of public charter schools, from one in the nation in 1993 to more than 1,200 in 1998. With at least 1,700 charter schools expected to operate this year, the nation is more than halfway to the President's goal of establishing 3,000 quality charter schools by 2002.

- **Supporting Local Education Reform Efforts.** The President signed into law the Education Flexibility Partnership Act of 1999 (Ed-Flex) to give all states the ability to use federal resources in ways that best complement local efforts and innovation.

Opening the Doors of College to All Americans

- **Increasing Student Aid.** President Clinton and Vice President Gore are committed to expanding access to higher education. Their FY2000 budget would expand the amount of total student aid available to $52.1 billion, a 3.9 percent increase over the 1999 level. More than 8.7 million students would receive assistance through grants, loans, and work study – an increase of 300,000.

> ➢ This year, an estimated $50 billion in federal grants and loans will be awarded to nearly 8.5 million students out of 10 million applicants. At a minimum, almost all students are eligible for loans without a federal interest subsidy but often with rates lower than commercially available loans.

- **Expanding Work Study and Pell Grants.** This year, nearly one million students will be able to work their way through college because of the President's expansion of the Work Study Program. And in 1999, nearly four million students will receive a Pell Grant of up to $3,125, the largest maximum award ever. The FY 2000 budget would raise the maximum Pell Grant award again, bringing it up to $3,250, and would make it available to nearly 3.9 million students.

- **Making 13th & 14th Grades as Universal As High School.** The first two years of college are universally available for nearly six million students with the $1,500 HOPE Scholarship, tax credits to help defray tuition and fees.

- **Increasing College Opportunity with Tuition Tax Credits and Education IRAs.** The 20 percent Lifetime Learning tax credit helps offset tuition costs for college or lifetime learning. More than seven million students and adults who want to upgrade their skills will benefit from the lifetime learning tax credit. The expanded IRA allows penalty and tax-free withdrawals for education.

- **Making College More Affordable.** The Clinton-Gore Administration has cut student fees and interest rates on all loans, expanded repayment options including income contingent repayment, and improved service through the Direct Loan Program.

> ➢ Since 1993, students have saved nearly $9 billion through the reduction in loan fees and interest rates.

- **Paying for College Through Community Service.** AmeriCorps has allowed more than 100,000 young people to serve their communities while earning money for college, repaying student loans, or getting important skills training.

- **Reaching Out to Disadvantaged Students.** The TRIO programs are designed to motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds. TRIO includes five distinct outreach programs targeted to serve and assist students as they progress from middle school to postsecondary education. The President's FY2000 includes a $30 million increase for the TRIO programs, which would increase the number of students served to 725,000.

- **Establishing the GEAR-UP Mentoring Program for Middle School Children.** The President and Vice President won $120 million to create a new mentoring initiate to help low-income middle school children prepare for college. GEAR-UP (a program that incorporates the "High Hopes" proposal) will expand mentoring efforts by states, and provide new grants to partnerships of middle schools, institutes of higher education, and community organizations, to provide intensive early intervention services to help prepare up to 100,000 students at high-poverty middle schools for college.

- **Increased Funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities.** Increased funding and grants for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) by over $250 million between FY92 and FY98 – an increase of nearly 25 percent. Today, America's 105 HBCUs are educating almost 300,000 African Americans.

- **Strengthening Hispanic Serving Institutions.** Last year the Clinton-Gore Administration won nearly $500 million for the Hispanic Education Action Plan to enhance educational opportunity for Hispanic Americans and address the unacceptably high Hispanic dropout rate. The Administration will continue this effort through aggressive outreach efforts and innovative partnerships. It will work to ensure that that Hispanic serving institutions are actively involved in Department of Education activities, so that all schools fulfill their commitments to Hispanic students. The FY2000 budget included a $14 million increase for the Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions program.

A Nation Transformed: Social Change 1992-99

In many ways the world is a profoundly different place than it was when President Clinton and Vice President Gore were elected in 1992. Our national economy is booming, we are beginning to heal social problems by reducing poverty and inequality and drawing on the power of communities. Unparalleled technological advances have provided a strong engine for our economy, and yielded amazing scientific discoveries. Respect for the role of women has grown and we have proved that economic health and environmental protection go hand-in-hand.

FROM ECONOMIC DISTRESS TO ECONOMIC HEALTH

- **Strongest Economy in Decades**
  By virtually any measure, the American economy has been transformed we are now enjoying the lowest unemployment rate in 30 years, also the lowest welfare rolls in 30 years, the lowest poverty rates in 20 years and the highest homeownership ever recorded.

- **Rolling Back The National Debt:**
  In the four years prior to 1992, the national debt increased by $1.5 trillion. In 1992 the deficit was $290 billion, debt was increasing at a rate of $13,000 per second. The projected deficit for 1999 was $400 billion by 1999. In FY 1999, The country instead ran a $123 billion surplus and over the last two years, we have paid down the debt by $140 billion. [NEC]

- **The End of Economic Anxiety:**
  Today 67% of Americans say that the economy is "excellent" or "good." In October of 1992, 11% rated the economy good, less than 1% said that it was excellent and 88% said that the economy was "fair" or "poor." In early 1992, the Conference Board reported that nearly half (47 percent) of Americans believed jobs were "hard to get," now only 14 percent think so.

- **The Stock Market Soared And More Americans Are Investing:**
  In 1992, just 26% said that they thought that it would be a good idea to invest in the stock market, if they had the money. Today, 60% of Americans have money invested directly or indirectly in the stock market. On Election Day 1992, the Dow Industrial Average stood at 3,262 and the Nasdaq composite index stood at 616. By November 1999, the Dow was over 10,500 and the Nasdaq composite index was near 3,000.

- **Explosion Of American Creativity And Invention:**
  Patent applications have increased from 186,000 in 1992 to 261,000 in 1998 – an increase of almost 40%.

SOLVING SOCIAL PROBLEMS

- **Winning The Fight Against Poverty:**
  In 1998, the poverty rate dropped to 12.7 percent from 13.3 percent the year before -- that's the lowest poverty rate in two decades. Since President Clinton signed his Economic Plan into law, the poverty rate has declined from 15.1 percent in 1993 to 12.7 percent last year -- that's the largest five-year drop in poverty in nearly 30 years (1965-1970).

- **Reversing Trends In Wage Inequality:**
  In the 1990s, all parts of the income scale are benefiting from a growing economy. America now enjoys the lowest African-American and Hispanic unemployment rates ever recorded, the lowest African-American poverty rate ever recorded, the lowest Hispanic poverty rate recorded in a generation, and the lowest unemployment rate among women in 40 years. Median income of African-American households is up 15.1 percent (or $3,317) since 1993, from $22,034 in 1993 to $25,351 in 1998, adjusted for inflation. In the 1970s and 1980s, income inequality <u>increased</u>, while the economy expanded.

- **Closing Education Gaps:**
  More women, Latinos and African-Americans are earning doctoral degrees than in 1990. 55% more African Americans received doctoral degrees in 1997 than in 1990; 35% more Latinos received doctoral degrees in 1997 and 25% more women received doctoral degrees in 1997.

- **Reducing Gun Deaths:**
  Deaths caused by firearms have dropped from 37,776 in 1992 to 32,436 in 1998, the lowest number since 1985. The gun death rate was lower in 1998 than any year since 1979.

- **Unleashing America's Community Spirit:**
  Today, 56% of Americans say that they volunteer, up from 48% in 1992. This amounts to over 20 million more volunteers today. Philanthropic giving has risen sharply in recent years to just over two percent of GDP. In 1998, Americans gave $174 billion to non-profit organizations, compared to $124 billion in 1992.

TECHNOLOGICAL EXPLOSION

- **The Internet Revolution:**
  There were practically no web pages in 1992. Today there are over 50 million web pages. By the end of 1992, 10 million people were connected to the Internet worldwide. Today there are 201 million people connected.

- **New Education Technology:**
  Thanks to the leadership of Vice President Gore, there are nine times as many classrooms connected to the Internet as there were six years ago. In the fall of 1998, 89 percent of public schools were connected to the Internet.
  - In 1992, there were 11 kids to every school computer, by 1998, the number had

dropped to six students per computer. By January, more than 95% of schools will have Internet access. In 1992, just 16% had modems.

- **Technology-Driven Trade and Business Expansion:**
  In 1992, the U.S. exported $24.9 billion in computer equipment. By 1997, exports of computer equipment almost doubled to $41.4 billion in computer equipment.

- **Turning The Corner On AIDS Deaths:**
  The number of AIDS cases reported in the United States has dropped from 102,186 in 1993 to 58,493 in 1997.

- **Remarkable Advances in Scientific Research:**
  In the last several years Americans have developed pathbreaking drugs to cure disease, produced a rough draft of a map of the human genome, and explored genetic tools to fight diseases like cancer and multiple sclerosis.

PROMOTING EQUALITY FOR WOMEN

- **Moving Women into Positions of Political Power:**
  More women serve in Congress than ever before (58 in House, 9 in Senate). President Clinton has also appointed more women to top Administration positions than any other President, including the country's first female Attorney General and Secretary of State. Today, 28% of statewide elective offices are held by women, compared to 18% in 1991-92.

- **Changing Face Of Television News:**
  Women and minority corespondents are getting more air time than ever before on the Big Three evening newscasts. Women covered 28% of the evening news stories in 1998, up from just 16% in 1991. Minority reporters covered 15% of the stories last year, up form 7% eight years ago. Last year, there were 53 women in the 163-member network news corespondent corps 33% of the total. That share is up from 17% in 1991.

- **Cracking the Glass Ceiling:**
  Today, 11 percent of Fortune 500 business executives are women. In 1992, less than 3 percent were women. Women are starting new firms at twice the rate of all other business and own nearly 40 percent of all firms in the U.S. These 8 million firms employ 18.5 million—one in every five U.S. workers—and contribute $2.3 trillion to the economy. Women CEOs are also finally gaining a toehold in large corporations.

- **Growth of Women's Sports:**
  In 1992, 99,859 women participated in intercollegiate athletics. In 1997, 129,285 women participated on 7,684 teams – an increase of nearly 30%. There is now a professional women's basketball league and, in 1999, 40 million Americans watched the United States win its third women's world cup soccer championship – more people than watched the final game of the 1999 World Series.

BUILDING A SAFER WORLD

- **Increasing International Trade And Travel:**
  Global tourism increased from $268.3 billion in 1990 to $443.8 billion in 1997. The American share of world tourism has increased from 16 to 17%. Overall American exports have increased from $616 billion in 1992 to $934 billion in 1998.

- **Birth of New Democracies:**
  Twenty-eight new nations have been born since 1992. According to the Freedom House, an international human rights group, there are 117 electoral democracies. As recently as 1989, there were only 69. Roughly 55% of the world's population lives in democracies today.

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- **More Americans Benefiting from Clean Air and Water:**
  Since 1993, the number of Americans whose communities meet federal air quality standards has grown by 43 million.

- **Cleaning the Environment Has Become Good Business:**
  Environmental industries created 174,000 jobs between 1990 and 1997. Revenues in these industries increased 24% over this period. American environmental technology firms export $16 billion in goods annually and support 170,000 jobs.

- **Making Recycling Common:**
  We recycle 17 million tons more material than we did in 1992 and generate less net waste per person. Because of this effort, the United States will actually generate <u>less</u> net waste in 2000 than it did in 1992, and about the same as we did in 1980 when there were almost 50 million fewer people in our country. Waste generation increased by 27% in the previous seven years. (1985-92). Today, our recycling rate is the highest in the world.

- **International Environmental Awakening:**
  Since the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit of 1992, governments have built a foundation of international environmental cooperation including: The Law of the Sea, effective in 1994, regulates economic activity in the oceans, ending a free-for-all of global exploitation of coastal fisheries. A 1996 global treaty ended U.S. and European production of chemicals that destroy the Earth's ozone layer. A 1996 treaty agreed to international cooperation in stopping the spread of deserts. And the 1997 conference in Kyoto, Japan where the world's nations came together to agree on mandatory cutbacks in the emissions of carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse gases" blamed for global warming.

- **Bald Eagle Recovery:**
  In 1999, the Bald Eagle is no longer an endangered species. There are now nearly 6,000 pairs of Bald Eagles in the U.S. In 1992, the Bald Eagle listed as endangered, with just 3,300 pairs left.

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BUDGET TALKING POINTS:
A Hard Won Victory For The American People
November 16, 1999

The First Budget of the 21st Century Meets Our Priorities, Supports Our Values, And Invests in Our Future. President Clinton insisted that Congress keep working on its budget until key priorities were addressed, including maintaining fiscal discipline, paying down the debt, and making investments in our people. This budget reflects *all* of those priorities.

A Victory for Our Children: Smaller Class Sizes with 100,000 New Qualified Teachers. Americans value and believe in providing our children with a top quality education. Because of the President's strong stand, this budget maintains the commitment Congress made last year to reduce class sizes in the early grades by hiring 100,000 new qualified teachers.

A Victory for Safer Neighborhoods: 50,000 More Community Police Officers. Americans value safety and security for their families. Because of the President's commitment, this budget will put 50,000 additional community police officers on the street – building on the first 100,000 officers funded as part of the 1994 Crime Bill, which have already helped give Americans the lowest crime rates in a generation.

A Victory for a Cleaner Environment: Anti-Environmental Provisions Removed. Americans value a clean and safe environment. Because of the President stood firm, this final agreement strengthens our efforts to preserve natural areas, protects our environment – and does not include anti-environmental provisions or "riders" that would have put special interests above the national interest.

A Victory for American Interests: Strengthening America's Leadership in the World. Americans value our leadership and influence in the world. Because of the President's determination, this budget strengthens that influence by meeting our commitment to the Middle East peace process, paying our dues and arrears to the United Nations, safeguarding nuclear weapons and expertise, and investing in debt relief for impoverished nations.

A Victory for the American People: (Department/Agency Specific Budget Wins)

This Budget is the Result of Congress Putting Politics Aside to Make Bipartisan Progress. Congress Should Work with the President to Complete Work on Other Bipartisan Priorities. While the bipartisan work of the past few weeks resulted in a budget that maintains fiscal discipline, reflects our values and invests in the future – Congress failed to take action on important, bipartisan issues this year. The President will continue to push Congress to pass:

- Common-sense gun safety legislation
- Meaningful hate crimes legislation
- An increase in the minimum wage

A real Patients' Bill of Rights
Legislation strengthening Social Security
Modernize Medicare, with a voluntary Prescription Drug Benefit