

Workers, business executives, small business owners, and farmers across America have contributed to the resurgence in American competitiveness. The ability and determination of working people across America to rise to the challenges of rapidly changing technologies and global economic competition is a great source of strength for this Nation.

Cooperation between the Administration and the Congress on a bipartisan basis has been critical in our efforts to reduce the deficit, to conclude trade agreements that level the global playing field for America, to secure peace and prosperity along America's borders, and to help prepare all Americans to benefit from expanded economic opportunities. I hope we can continue working together to advance these vital goals in the years to come.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 11, 1997.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S FISCAL YEAR 1998 BUDGET REQUEST ACT OF 1997—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 51

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 202(c)(5)(C)(ii) of the Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Act of 1995 ("the FRMA Act"), I am transmitting the Council of the District of Columbia's "Fiscal Year 1998 Budget Request Act of 1997."

The Council's proposed Fiscal Year 1998 Budget was disapproved by the Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority (the "Authority") on June 12. Under the FRMA Act, if the Authority disapproves the Council's financial plan and budget, the Mayor must submit that budget to the President to be transmitted to the Congress. My transmittal of the District Council's budget, as required by law, does not represent an endorsement of its contents. The budget also does not reflect the effect of my proposed Fiscal Year 1998 District of Columbia revitalization plan.

The Authority is required to transmit separately to the Mayor, the Council, the President, and the Congress a financial plan and budget. The Authority sent its financial plan and budget to the Congress on June 15.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 11, 1997.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1996—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 52

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message

from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

To the Congress of the United States:

It is my pleasure to transmit the Annual Report of the National Endowment for the Arts for 1996.

One measure of a great nation is the vitality of its culture, the dedication of its people to nurturing a climate where creativity can flourish. By supporting our museums and theaters, our dance companies and symphony orchestras, our writers and our artists, the National Endowment for the Arts provides such a climate. Look through this report and you will find many reasons to be proud of our Nation's cultural life at the end of the 20th century and what it portends for Americans and the world in the years ahead.

Despite cutbacks in its budget, the Endowment was able to fund thousands of projects all across America—a museum in Sitka, Alaska; a dance company in Miami, Florida; a production of a Eugene O'Neill play in New York City; a Whistler exhibition in Chicago; and artists in schools in all 50 States. Millions of Americans were able to see plays, hear concerts, and participate in the arts in their hometowns, thanks to the work of this small agency.

As we set our priorities for the coming years, let's not forget the vital role the National Endowment for the Arts must continue to play in our national life. The Endowment shows the world that we take pride in American culture here and abroad. It is a beacon, not only of creativity, but of freedom. And let us keep that lamp brightly burning now and for all time.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 11, 1997.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2467. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, U.S. Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Virginia Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Plan", received on June 27, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2468. A communication from the Deputy Associate Director for Royalty Management, Minerals Management Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of a refund under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2469. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer, U.S. Enrichment Corporation, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to the Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation program; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2470. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Marketing

and Regulatory Programs, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to the Mediterranean Fruit Fly, received on July 10, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2471. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to tuberculosis in cattle and bison, received on July 10, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2472. A communication from the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, a rule relative to allocation of assets in single-employer plans, received on July 10, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-2473. A communication from the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to Reorganization, Renumbering, and Reinvention of Regulations, received on June 26, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-2474. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to rescissions and deferrals dated July 1, 1997; referred jointly, pursuant to order of January 30, 1975, as modified by order of April 11, 1986; to the Committees on Appropriations, the Budget, Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, Armed Services, Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, Energy and Natural Resources, Finance, Foreign Relations, Governmental Affairs, and the Judiciary.

EC-2475. A communication from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Energy Information Administration's Annual Report to Congress for calendar year 1996 under the Federal Energy Administration Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2476. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules relative to emissions standards, received on July 10, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2477. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report for the six-month period ending March 31, 1997 under the Inspector General Act; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2478. A communication from the Executive Director, Committee for Purchase From People Who are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to additions to the procurement list, received on July 11, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2479. A communication from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period of fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2480. A communication from the Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period October 1, 1996, to March 31, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2481. A communication from the Director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, approval of

two personnel management demonstration projects relative to improving laboratories; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2482. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Officer, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to firearm possession, received on June 26, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2483. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, U.S. Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a determination relative to the assistance in Haiti; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-2484. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, U.S. Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to conditions in Burma; to the Committee on Appropriations.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-168. A resolution adopted by the House of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the House of Representatives is becoming increasingly concerned that the tropical rain forests are being destroyed at a rate of between 13.5 million and 55 million acres a year; and

Whereas, it is feared that further destruction will lead to the elimination of hundreds of thousands of species of plants and animals; and

Whereas, rain forests are an important source of medicinal plants, and approximately 121 prescription drugs are derived from plants which have their origins in rain forests; and

Whereas, rain forests are storehouses of evolutionary achievement and are increasingly invaluable to humankind in our search for the mysteries of life; and

Whereas, rain forests play a major role in the way the sun's heat is distributed around the globe, and any disturbance could produce climatic chaos; and

Whereas, it is imperative that something be done before the damage to the rain forests is irreversible: Therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives memorialize the President and Congress to take whatever steps are necessary to protect the rain forests from further destruction; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States and the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-169. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17

Whereas, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization has proven itself to be a stabilizing factor in Europe. Through a wide variety of programs and the channels of communications it has opened, NATO has helped to secure the peace, economic development, and cooperation among its member nations and other countries; and

Whereas, Poland, a free and democratic nation with a long and proud history, enjoys numerous ties with NATO member nations. The Republic of Poland is committed to the

preservation of freedom and the strengthening of democracy. This nation's well-being as a sovereign country has long been dependent upon the overall stability of central Europe; and

Whereas, the people of Poland wish to exercise their responsibilities within NATO. This country desires to become part of NATO's mission to prevent the excesses of nationalism; and

Whereas, the United States is dedicated to maintaining its friendship with Poland, a country that is pivotal to the continued stability of this area of the world; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That we memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to work for the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to include the Republic of Poland; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Office of the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-170. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 97-1027

Whereas, the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996", Public Law 104-193, herein referred to as the "Act", was passed by the United States House of Representatives on July 18, 1996, and the United States Senate on July 23, 1996, and signed into law by President Clinton on August 22, 1996; and

Whereas, Article III of such Act addresses the several states' obligation to provide child support enforcement services and mandates that the states adopt certain procedures for the location of an obligor and the establishment, modification, and enforcement of a child support obligation against such obligor; and

Whereas, the members of the Sixty-first General Assembly recognize the importance of assuring financial support for minor and dependent children; however, the General Assembly finds that those procedures specified in the Act include such far-reaching measures as the following:

(1) The necessity to implement the "Uniform Interstate Family Support Act", as approved by the American Bar Association and as amended by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, which uniform act allows for the direct registration of foreign support orders and the activation of income-withholding procedures across state lines without any prior verification, certification, or other authentication that the child support order or the income-withholding form is accurate or valid and without a requirement that notice of such withholding be provided to the alleged obligor by any specified means or method, such as by first-class mail or personal service, to assure that the individual receives proper notice prior to the income-withholding;

(2) Liens to arise by operation of law against real and personal property for amounts of overdue support that are owed by a noncustodial parent who resides or owns property in the state, without the ability to determine if a lien exists on certain property;

(3) The obligation of the state to accord full faith and credit to such liens arising by operation of law in any other state, which results in inadequate notice and the inability of purchasers to have knowledge or notice of such liens;

(4) A duty placed upon employers to report all newly hired employees, whether or not the employee has a child support obligation, to a state directory of new hires within a restricted period of time after the employer hires the employee;

(5) The requirement that social security numbers be recorded when a person applies for a professional license, a commercial driver's license, an occupational license, or a marriage license, when a person is subject to a divorce decree, a support order, or a paternity determination or acknowledgment, or when an individual dies, whether or not the person has an obligation to pay child support;

(6) A requirement that the child support enforcement agency enter into agreements with financial institutions doing business in the state in order to develop, operate, and coordinate an unprecedented and invasive data match system for the sharing of account holder information with the child support enforcement agency in order to facilitate the potential matching of delinquent obligors and bank account holders;

(7) Procedures by which the state child support enforcement agency may subpoena financial or other information needed to establish, modify, or enforce a support order and to impose penalties for failure to respond to such a subpoena and procedures by which to access information contained in certain records, including the records of public utilities and cable television companies pursuant to an administrative subpoena; and

(8) Procedures interfering with the states' right to determine when a jury trial is to be authorized; and

Whereas, the Act mandates numerous, unnecessary requirements upon the several states that epitomize the continuing trend of intrusion by government into people's personal lives; and

Whereas, the Act offends the notion of notice and opportunity to be heard guaranteed to the people by the Due Process Clauses of the 5th and 14th Amendments to the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, the Act offends the 10th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which provides that "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."; and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court has ruled in *New York v. United States*, 112 S. Ct. 2408 (1992), that Congress may not simply commandeer the legislative and regulatory processes of the states; and

Whereas, the Act imposes upon the several states further insufficiently funded mandates in relation to the costly development of procedures by which to implement the requirements set forth in the Act in order to preserve the receipt of federal funds under Title IV-D of the "Social Security Act", as amended, and other provisions of the Act: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-first General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein: That we, the members of the Sixty-first General Assembly, urge the Congress of the United States to amend or repeal those specific provisions of the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996" set forth in this Resolution that place undue burden and expense upon the several states, that violate provisions of the Constitution of the United States, that impose insufficiently funded mandates upon the states in the establishment, modification, and enforcement of child support obligations, or that unjustifiably intrude into the personal lives of the law-abiding citizens of the United States of America; be it further