

high-quality education. That means safe, modern schools. It means making sure our children have well-trained teachers who demand high standards. It means making sure all schools are equipped with the best new technologies, so that children can harness the tools of the 21st century.

First and foremost, our children cannot continue trying to learn in schools that are so old they are falling apart. One-third of all public schools need extensive repair or replacement. By 2003 we will need an additional 2,400 schools nationwide to accommodate these rising enrollments. That is why, in my State of the Union address, I proposed \$24.8 billion in tax credit bonds over 2 years to modernize up to 6,000 schools, and a \$1.3 billion school emergency loan and grant proposal to help renovate schools in high-poverty, high-need school districts.

Second, if our children are to succeed in the new digital economy, they must know how to use the tools of the 21st century. That is why the Vice President and I have fought for initiatives like the E-rate, which is providing \$2 billion a year to help schools afford to network their classrooms and connect to the Internet. The E-rate and our other initiatives in education technology have gone a long way toward giving all children access to technology in their schools. But there is still a great "digital divide" when children go home. Children from wealthy families are far more likely to have access to a computer at home than children from poor or minority families. That is why, in my budget, I propose a new Digital Divide initiative that will expand support for community technology centers in low-income communities; a pilot project to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families; and grants and loan guarantees to accelerate the deployment of high-speed networks in underserved rural and urban communities.

Third, we must continue to make college affordable and accessible for all Americans. I have proposed a college opportunity tax cut, which would invest \$30 billion over 10 years in helping millions of families who now struggle to afford college for their children. When fully phased in, this initiative would give families the option to claim a tax deduction or a tax credit on up to \$10,000 of tuition and fees for any post-secondary education in which their members enroll, whether college, graduate study, or training courses. I have proposed increases in Pell grants, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, and Work Study. I have also proposed creating new College Completion Challenge Grants to encourage students to stay in college.

We have seen dramatic advances in health care over the course of the 20th century, which have led to an increase

in life expectancy of almost 30 years. But much remains to be done to ensure that all have and maintain access to quality medical care. That is why my budget expands health care coverage, calls for passing a strong and enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights, strengthens and modernizes Medicare, addresses long-term care, and continues to promote life-saving research.

My budget invests over \$110 billion over 10 years to improve the affordability, accessibility, and quality of health insurance. It will provide a new, affordable health insurance option for uninsured parents as well as accelerate enrollment of uninsured children who are eligible for Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program. The initiative will expand health insurance options for Americans facing unique barriers to coverage. For example, it will allow certain people aged 55-65 to buy into Medicare, and it will give tax credits to workers who cannot afford the full costs of COBRA coverage after leaving a job. Finally, my initiative will provide funds to strengthen the public hospitals and clinics that provide health care directly to the uninsured. If enacted, this would be the largest investment in health coverage since Medicare was created in 1965, and one of the most significant steps we can take to help working families.

As our Nation ages and we live longer, we face new challenges in Medicare and long-term care. Despite improvements in Medicare in the past 7 years, the program begins this century with the disadvantages of insufficient funding, inadequate benefits, and outdated payment systems. To strengthen and modernize the program, I have proposed a comprehensive reform plan that would make Medicare more competitive and efficient and invest \$400 billion over the next 10 years in extending solvency through 2025 and adding a long-overdue, voluntary prescription drug benefit.

The aging of America also underscores the need to build systems to provide long-term care. More than 5 million Americans require long-term care because of significant limitations due to illness or disability. About two-thirds of them are older Americans. That is why I have proposed a \$27 billion investment over 10 years in long-term care. Its centerpiece is a \$3,000 tax credit to defray the cost of long-term care. In addition, I propose to expand access to home-based care, to establish new support networks for caregivers, and to promote quality private long-term care insurance by offering it to Federal employees at group rates.

We must continue to make this economic expansion reach out to every corner of our country, leaving no town, city, or Native American reservation behind. That is why I am asking the Congress to authorize two additional components of our New Markets agen-

da. The first is the New Markets Venture Capital Firms program, geared toward helping small and first-time businesses. The second is America's Private Investment Companies, modeled on the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, to help larger businesses expand or relocate to distressed inner-city and rural areas. Overall the New Markets initiative could spur \$22 billion of new equity investment in our underserved communities.

I am also proposing a new initiative called First Accounts, to expand access to financial services for low- and moderate-income Americans. We will work with private financial institutions to encourage the creation of low-cost bank accounts for low-income families. We will help bring more automated teller machines to safe places in low-income communities, such as the post office. And we will educate Americans about managing household finances and building assets over time.

To further increase opportunities for working families, I am proposing another expansion of the EITC to provide tax relief for 6.4 million hard-pressed families—with additional benefits for families with three or more children. We have seen the dramatic effects that our 1993 expansion of the EITC had in reducing poverty and encouraging work: 4.3 million people were directly lifted out of poverty by the EITC in 1998 alone. More single mothers are working than ever before, and the child poverty rate is at its lowest since 1980.

Our initiatives to open overseas markets will continue. We have successfully concluded bilateral negotiations on China's accession to the World Trade Organization and now seek congressional action to provide China with permanent normal trade relations. The United States will also work to give the least developed countries greater access to global markets. We will participate in the scheduled multilateral talks to liberalize trade in services and agriculture and will continue to press our trading partners to launch a new round of negotiations within the World Trade Organization.

We have a historic opportunity to answer the challenges ahead: to increase economic opportunity for all American families; to provide quality, affordable child care, health care, and long-term care; and to give our children the best education in the world. Working together, we can meet these great challenges and make this new millennium one of ever-increasing promise, hope, and opportunity for all Americans.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 10, 2000.

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-7496. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model DHC-8-100, -200, and -300 Series Airplanes; Request for Comments; Docket No. 2000-NM-08 (2-1/2-3)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0052), received February 3, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7497. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL-600-2B19 Series Airplanes; Docket No. 99-NM-34 (2-7/2-7)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0065), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7498. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Raytheon Aircraft Company Beech Models 65-90, 65-A90, B90, and C-90; Request for Comments; Docket No. 99-CE-92 (2-1/2-1)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0053), received February 3, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7499. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Raytheon Model Hawker 800 and 1000 Airplanes and Model DH.125, HS.125, BH.125, and BAe.125 Series Airplanes; Docket No. 99-NM-160 (2-7/2-7)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0056), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7500. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Model MU-2B Series Airplanes; Docket No. 99-CE-38 (2-7/2-4)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0073), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7501. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Harbin Aircraft Manufacturing Corporation Model Y12IV Airplanes; Docket No. 99-CE-41 (2-4/2-7)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0074), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7502. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; SOCATA-Groupe AEROSPATRIALE Model TBM 700 Airplanes; Docket No. 99-CE-50 (2-4/2-7)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0071), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7503. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 Airplanes; Docket No. 99-CE-64 (2-4/2-7)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0072), received February

7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7504. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Twin Commander Aircraft Corporation 600 Series Airplanes; Docket No. 99-CE-51 (2-4/2-7)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0070), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7505. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace Model 4101 Airplanes; Docket No. 99-NM-309 (2-3/2-3)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0064), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7506. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Aerospace Technologies of Australia Pty. Ltd. Models N22B and N24A Airplanes; Docket No. 99-CE-47 (2-4/2-7)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0076), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7507. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. Models EMB-110P1 and EMPB-110P2 Airplanes; Docket No. 99-CE-42 (2-4/2-7)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0075), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7508. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Short Brothers and Harland Ltd. Models SC-7 and 2 and SC-7 Series 3 Airplanes; Docket No. 97-CE-99 (2-1/2-3)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0054), received February 3, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7509. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Model MU-2B Series Airplanes; Docket No. 99-CE-38 (2-7/2-4)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0073), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7510. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model SA.315B Helicopters; Docket No. 98-SW-63 (2-7/2-7)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0077), received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7511. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to written certificates OMB received from agencies that have assessed the impact of their policies and regulations on the family; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-7512. A communication from the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a quarterly

report on the denial of safeguards information; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7513. A communication from the Assistant Comptroller General, transmitting a report entitled "Funding Trends and Opportunities to Improve Investment Decisions"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-7514. A communication from the Director, Office of General Counsel and Legal Policy, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Executive Agency Ethics Training Programs Regulation Amendments" (RIN3209-AA07), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-7515. A communication from the Deputy Executive Secretary, Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Timelines Under the Head Start Appeals Process" (RIN0970-AB87), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7516. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Gastroenterology-Urology Devices: Reclassification of the Penile Rigidity Implant" (Docket No. 97N-0481), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7517. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Small Business Administration transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Small Business Investment Companies" (RIN3245-AE08), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Small Business.

EC-7518. A communication from the Managing Director, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Information Collection Approval; Technical Amendment to Affordable Housing Program Rule" (RIN3069-AA93), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7519. A communication from the Managing Director, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Information Collection Approval; Technical Amendment to Community Support Requirements Rule" (RIN3069-AA95), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7520. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the percentage of funds that were expended during the preceding two fiscal years for performance of depot-level maintenance and repair workloads by the public and private sectors; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7521. A communication from the Director, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Cost Accounting Standards; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7522. A communication from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mentor-Protege Program Improvements" (DFARS Case 99-D307), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7523. A communication from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement, Department

of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Delegation of Class Deviation Authority" (DFARS Case 99-D027), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7524. A communication from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "People's Republic of China" (DFARS Case 98-D305), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7525. A communication from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement, Department of Defense transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "OMB Circular A-119" (DFARS Case 99-D024), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7526. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of its 2000 compensation program adjustments; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7527. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Research Service, Department of Agriculture transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Fee Schedule, National Agricultural Library" (RIN0518-AA01), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7528. A communication from the Associate Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Clause for Export Controlled Technology," received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7530. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Atka Mackerel in the Eastern Aleutian District and Bering Sea subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands," received January 28, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7531. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations; Middlebury, Berlin and Hardwick, VT" (MM Docket No. 98-72, RM-9265, RM-9368), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7532. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations; Alberton and Big Sky, MT, Albany and Seymour, TX and Inglis, FL" (MM Dockets No. 99-304, 99-307, 99-286, 99-303, and 99-306), received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7533. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Fishing Vessels Greater than 99 feet LOA Catching Pollock for Processing by the Inshore Component Independently of a Cooperative

in the Bering Sea," received February 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7534. A communication from the Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of foreign aviation authorities to which the Administrator provided services in the preceding fiscal year; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7535. A communication from the Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on actions taken in respect to the New England fishing capacity reduction initiative; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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-403. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts relative to the Highland Links Golf Course in the Town of Truro, MA; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the town of Truro was incorporated as a town of this commonwealth in 1709; and

Whereas, the Highlands Links is a 107 year-old golf course located in Truro within the boundaries of the national seashore; and

Whereas, the town of Truro has operated and managed the Highland Links Golf Course for over 10 years in a professional and efficient manner; and

Whereas, the town of Truro is the only known municipality in the United States operating a concession for the National Park Service; and

Whereas, the proposed interpretation of title IV of the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998, and the proposed National Park Service rules, 36 CFR part 51, interpret new concession contract procedures in a manner requiring the National Park Service to solicit public bids to operate the Highland Links Golf Course; and

Whereas, such a public bid for these services would not be in the public interest and would disturb a long-standing and historically significant contractual arrangement benefiting the town and its residents; and

Whereas, private operation would harm the public interest and destroy a piece of the unique character of Cape Cod; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Massachusetts general court strongly favors a change to the Code of Federal Regulations allowing a contract for concessions to be awarded to a governmental unit operating a concession in the public interest, without public solicitation and respectfully requests the National Park Service to accommodate the will of the town of Truro to continue the unique arrangement for operation of the Highland Links Golf Course as it has for 30 years; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted forthwith by the Clerk of the Senate to the National Park Service.

POM-404. A resolution adopted by the House of the General Assembly of the State

of Rhode Island relative to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; to the Committee on Foreign Relations

HOUSE RESOLUTION

Whereas, A twenty-year study by the United Nations reported that women face discrimination in every region on earth; and

Whereas, In 1979, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and President Carter sent the convention to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for ratification where it has remained; and

Whereas, Currently, one hundred sixty-five (165) nations, including all of the industrialized world, except South Africa and the United States, have agreed to be bound by the convention's provisions; and

Whereas, The spirit of the convention is rooted in the goals of the United Nations to affirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women; and

Whereas, The convention provides a comprehensive framework for challenging the various forces that have created and sustained discrimination based on sex, and the nations in support of the present convention have agreed to follow convention prescriptions; and

Whereas, Women constitute at least forty-one percent of the work force worldwide yet are far behind men in pay, power, and responsibility; and

Whereas, Nearly seventy percent of the world's poor are women; and

Whereas, On average, women around the world earn thirty to forty percent less than men for work of comparable value; and

Whereas, Twelve countries have laws that do not allow women to seek employment, open a bank account, or apply for a loan without the husband's authorization; and

Whereas, Thirty-three and six-tenths percent of the adult female population is illiterate versus 19.4 percent of the adult male population; and

Whereas, Young women face discrimination in the classroom which undermines their self-esteem and jeopardizes their future performance; and

Whereas, Over sixty percent of the women and girls in the world live under conditions which threaten their health; and

Whereas, Eleven percent of the women in industrialized countries suffer from nutritional anemia, and up to two-thirds of pregnant women in Africa and much of Asia are anemic; and

Whereas, In Austria, violence against wives was cited as a contributing factor in 59 percent of 1,500 divorce cases that were reviewed; and

Whereas, In the United States six million women are beaten by their husbands or boyfriends each year, and 1,500 of them will die; and

Whereas, Battering is the major cause of injury to women in the United States; and

Whereas, In India, registered cases of women being killed in disputes over their dowries soared from 999 in 1985 to 1,786 in 1987; and

Whereas, Kuwait is the only country in the world that extends voting privileges to certain citizens, but prohibits all women from voting; and

Whereas, Although women have made major gains in the struggle for equality in social, business, political, legal, educational, and other fields in this century, there is