

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With State Legislators

June 8, 1992

Welcome, all. Thank you very much for coming.

Let me just make a short statement here before we close the door and get into hearing from you all on this important amendment. But 44 States have constitutional provisions relating to a balanced budget. Passing a balanced budget amendment, in my view, is essential to the long-term economic health of this country. This is an idea whose time has come. We've been for it for a long, long time.

I want to hear from each of you as to how you think we can best get this done. But I appreciate your being here. It is priority. I think the country is sick and tired of deficits. This will help discipline the executive and the legislative branch, and we've got to get it done. So I appreciate your coming, and we'll see where we go here.

Note: The President spoke at 11:15 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

Nomination of Mary Jo Jacobi To Be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce

June 8, 1992

The President today announced his intention to nominate Mary Jo Jacobi, of Mississippi, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. She would succeed Craig R. Helsing.

Since 1990, Ms. Jacobi has served as senior vice president at Group Public Affairs USA for the HSBC Group and all its U.S. operations, including Marine Midland Bank in New York, NY. Since 1985, she has served in several capacities with Drexel Burnham Lambert, Inc., in New York: senior vice president, 1990; member of the Board of Directors, 1989–90; first vice president, 1987–89; and corporate vice

president, 1985–86. Ms. Jacobi has also served at the White House as Special Assistant to the President for Business Liaison, 1983–85, and as a member of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Trade Negotiations, 1986–88. She has also served at the Department of Commerce as Director of the Office of Business Liaison, 1982–83, and as executive assistant to the Associate Deputy Secretary, 1981–82.

Ms. Jacobi graduated from Loyola University in New Orleans (B.B.A., 1973) and from George Washington University (M.B.A., 1976). She was born December 7, 1951, in Bay St. Louis, MS. Ms. Jacobi currently resides in New York, NY.

Appointment of Jeffrey W. Vogt as Special Assistant to the President for Public Liaison

June 8, 1992

The President announced today the appointment of Jeffrey W. Vogt as Special Assistant to the President for Public Liaison.

Since 1989, Mr. Vogt has served at the

White House as Assistant Director (1989–90) and as Associate Director (1990–92) for the Office of Public Liaison. Mr. Vogt has served as the contact for the corporate,

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small business, and business association communities on economic and trade policy issues. Mr. Vogt previously served as a member of the President-elect's public affairs transition team; as finance director of Victory '88 at the Republican National Committee, 1988; and as national direct marketing coordinator for the George Bush for President campaign, 1987-88. Mr. Vogt is a former small business owner and has held other positions, which include: account

executive at the direct marketing firm of Stephen Winchell & Associates, 1985-86; sales representative for Coldwell Banker Real Estate, 1985-88; and finance director for the McMillan for Congress campaign in Bushnell, IL, 1984.

Mr. Vogt graduated from Colby College (B.A., 1984) in Waterville, ME. He was born June 18, 1962, in Grand Rapids, MI, and presently resides in Arlington, VA.

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Republican Congressional Leaders June 9, 1992

The President. May I make just a comment while the cameras are here and first say that we are pushing from here, and I am grateful of the support around this table, for this balanced budget amendment, constitutional amendment. Now I'm told that the leadership on the Democratic side, trying to block the balanced budget amendment, are coming up with something they call the balanced budget act, which does not balance the budget. It does not require the adoption of a balanced budget, and it's kind of a stalking horse to give cover to Members who don't want to vote for the balanced budget amendment. And we've got to fight hard against it. I'm making phone calls.

The irony is that the Democratic leadership is fighting the balanced budget constitutional amendment, at the same time trying to ram through \$2 billion in spending that's not required, all of which they declare an emergency so they can exempt it from the fiscal discipline of the budget act. And I think we've got to get that message out to the American people.

I will sign an emergency appropriation for areas that are affected by these recently declared Presidential disasters. I'd also support, as I know everybody here knows, money for summer jobs, additional money that could actually be spent if they agreed to target it to the areas of actual need.

But I would just strongly urge our con-

tinuing opposition to these tactics up there and do something for the American people who are very much concerned about the deficit. And we're trying to get spending under control. And now we've got a real opportunity to show the American people we can do something.

I've approached this not in a partisan manner, working with many Democrats trying to get it through the House, the balanced budget amendment. And I'll keep doing that. But I really want to hear from you all in just a second as to how you feel we can get this one key job done, the same time making sure we're helping the cities in the sound way that we've proposed. They are not incompatible at all. So there we are.

Q. Do you think you're going to win?

The President. Well, we'll find that out from the leaders. I certainly hope so. The American people want it done. And here's a good, clear case to take to the Congress and say, look, the American people want this. Our troops are lined up solidly for it, advocating it, taking the case to the floor and elsewhere. But we've got to have some more bipartisan support for this.

Thank you all very much.

Note: The President spoke at 9:50 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House.