meet and to those who do not. I think you have to reward the good teachers and get more good people in teaching, and that we have to facilitate the removal of those who aren’t performing.

I think the schools need more authority and should be held more accountable. We’ve got to redo these central school budgets until we have squeezed down the overhead costs and put it back into education. And unless we have an environment in which there is safety and discipline, we won’t succeed. And if we do have an environment in which the business community brings in more technology, we will succeed more quickly.

I believe that this meeting will prove historic. And again, let me say, I thank the Governors and the business leaders who brought it about. In 1983 we said, “We’ve got a problem in our schools. We need to take tougher courses. We need to have other reforms.” In 1989 we said, “We need to know where we’re going. We need goals.” Here in 1996, you’re saying you can have all of the goals in the world, but unless somebody really has meaningful standards and a system of measuring whether you meet those standards, you won’t achieve your goals. That is the enduring gift you have given to America’s schoolchildren and to America’s future.

The Governors have to lead the way. The business community has to stay involved. Don’t let anybody deter you and say you shouldn’t be doing it. You can go back home and reach out to all the other people in the community because, in the end, what the teachers and the principals and more importantly even what the parents and the children do is what really counts. But we can get there together. We have to start now with what you’re trying to do. We have to have high standards and high accountability. If you can achieve that, you have given a great gift to the future of this country.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:25 p.m. in the Watson Room at the IBM Conference Center. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Bob Miller of Nevada, NGA vice chairman; Gov. Tommy G. Thompson of Wisconsin, NGA chairman; Louis Gerstner, chief executive officer, IBM; Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., of North Carolina; Gov. Terry E. Branstad of Iowa; Carroll W. Campbell, former South Carolina Governor; Albert Shanker, president, American Federation of Teachers; Gov. John Engler of Michigan; Gov. Roy Romer of Colorado; and Gov. Gaston Caperton of West Virginia.

Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on Radiation Control for Health and Safety
March 27, 1996

To the Congress of the United States:


The report recommends the repeal of section 540 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act that requires the completion of this annual report. All the information found in this report is available to the Congress on a more immediate basis through the Center for Devices and Radiological Health technical reports, the Radiological Health Bulletin, and other publicly available sources. The Agency resources devoted to the preparation of this report could be put to other, better uses.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
March 27, 1996.