We will continue to work in partnership with South Africa to build a world of justice and
tolerance, opportunity and prosperity, democracy and security.

Statement on the National Economy
June 4, 1999

Today, we have more good news about continuing prosperity in our economy. The unemployment rate fell to 4.2 percent, marking the 23rd month in a row that the rate has been below 5 percent and the lowest rate in 29 years. Combined with the continued strong overall economic growth, low long-term inflation, and continued rising wages, we are widening the circle of opportunity for more Americans. African-American unemployment fell to the lowest level on record. Nearly 19 million jobs have been created since 1993, and nearly one million jobs have been created in the first 5 months of this year, showing the continued strong pace of job creation. We need to continue our commitment to our proven economic strategy of fiscal discipline, opening markets abroad, and targeted investments in our people.

Statement on the Death of Zachary Fisher
June 4, 1999

Hillary and I are saddened to hear of the death of Zachary Fisher. The brave men and women of the United States military have lost a true friend, and America has lost a true patriot.

Over the years, thousands of military families were touched by Mr. Fisher’s generosity: he provided scholarships for college; built “Fisher Houses” near military and VA hospitals so that families could be close to sick or injured loved ones; and established New York’s Intrepid Museum so that future generations could be inspired by America’s military history.

Through these good works, Mr. Fisher helped all Americans repay the tremendous debt we owe to the men and women who every day risk their lives to defend our Nation and advance the cause of freedom around the world. I was proud to present him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom last fall. Mr. Fisher’s memory will continue to inspire all Americans.

Hillary and I send our thoughts and prayers to his family and friends.

The President’s Radio Address
June 5, 1999

The President. Good morning. I’m here today with Tipper Gore, my adviser for mental health policy. On Monday, together with Vice President Gore and the First Lady, we will convene the first White House Conference on Mental Health. Today Tipper and I want to talk about what we must do as a nation to fight the stigma that prevents so many Americans with mental illness from making the most of their lives.

For more than 6 years now, our administration has worked hard to widen the circle of opportunity for every American. That means making sure people living with mental illness have the same chance to live up to their God-given potential as all other Americans.

But the hard truth is, in too many of our communities and in too many of our hearts, mental illness is misunderstood and feared. Too