

The President. We're here to talk about what's going to be in the bill. I want to pass a bill early this year, as early as we can, and we're going to talk about that.

There was a good bill last year—it had a lot of good features in it—which was vetoed by President Bush. And I guess we'll start talking about that and see where we go from there. But I hope we can get a good bill.

In terms of when it goes into effect, and the last bill skipped an election cycle and was widely applauded by all the public interest groups as a great advance over where we are now. I think when it goes into effect is a subject of discussion here. But I want to pass a good bill. That's my concern.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:49 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House.

Letter to Federal Emergency Management Agency Acting Director William C. Tidball on Disaster Assistance for California
February 3, 1993

Dear Mr. Tidball:

I have determined that the damage in certain areas of the State of California, resulting from severe winter storms, mud and rock slides, and flooding on January 5–22, 1993, is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a major disaster declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (“the Stafford Act”). I, therefore, declare that such a major disaster exists in the State of California.

In order to provide Federal assistance, you are hereby authorized to allocate from funds available for these purposes, such amounts as you find necessary for Federal disaster assistance and administrative expenses.

You are authorized to provide Individual Assistance and Public Assistance in the designated areas. Consistent with the require-

ment that Federal assistance be supplemental, any Federal funds provided under the Stafford Act for Public Assistance will be limited to 75 percent of the total eligible costs.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

NOTE: This letter was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary but was not issued as a White House press release.

Letter to Governor Pete Wilson on Disaster Assistance for California
February 3, 1993

Dear Governor Wilson:

As requested, I have declared a major disaster under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (the Stafford Act) for the State of California due to damage resulting from severe winter storms, mud and rock slides, and flooding on January 5–22, 1993. I have authorized Federal relief and recovery assistance in the affected area.

Individual Assistance and Public Assistance will be provided. Consistent with the requirement that Federal assistance be supplemental, any Federal funds provided under the Stafford Act for Public Assistance will be limited to 75 percent of the total eligible costs in the designated areas.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) will coordinate Federal assistance efforts and designate specific areas eligible for such assistance. The Federal Coordinating Officer will be Mr. Frank Kishton of FEMA. He will consult with you and assist in the execution of the FEMA-State Disaster Assistance Agreement governing the expenditure of Federal Funds.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

NOTE: This letter was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary but was not issued as a White House press release.

Nomination of William J. Perry To Be Deputy Secretary of Defense

February 3, 1993

The President today nominated William J. Perry, a highly respected expert on military technology, to serve as Deputy Secretary of Defense under Secretary Les Aspin.

“William Perry is a sound and sophisticated adviser whose expertise on military technology and policy is unmatched,” said President Clinton. “Secretary Aspin and I will rely heavily on his knowledge, imagination, and judgment as we work to keep our military the strongest in the world in a time of budgetary constraints.”

Perry has long been regarded as one of the country’s leading experts on military technology affairs. He is currently serving as codirector of the Stanford University Center for International Security and Arms Control, as well as being a professor at Stanford’s School of Engineering and chairman of Technology Strategies and Alliances, a management consulting firm. He is a member of the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board and of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence’s Technology Review Panel. In addition, Perry is a trustee of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

During the Carter administration, Perry served as Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering. In that position, he was responsible for military acquisitions and is credited with making investments in many weapons systems that have been successful in recent military actions.

Perry, 66, lives in San Francisco, CA, with his wife, Lee, a CPA. They have three sons and two daughters.

Proclamation 6527—National Women and Girls in Sports Day, 1993

February 3, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In 1972, Title IX was passed requiring colleges receiving government funds to provide equitable athletic programs for women, thus markedly expanding sports opportunities for women. As we enter the third decade of this law, it is fitting and proper that we recognize the importance of the skills gained through fitness and athletic experiences.

Sports and fitness activities greatly enhance emotional and physical well-being. Additionally, the communication and cooperation skills learned through athletic experiences play a key role in an individual’s contributions at home, at work, and to society. At the same time, the bonds built through athletics help to break down the barriers of racism and prejudice.

Unfortunately, while the history of women in sports is rich and long, there has been limited national recognition of the significance of women’s athletic achievements. The number of women in leadership positions as coaches, officials, and administrators has declined drastically over the years. Athletic opportunities for male students at the high school and collegiate level remain significantly greater than those for female students.

With the promise of a bright future, female athletes serve as a source of pride and unity for the United States. They represent the best of performance and dedication and serve as valuable role models to younger citizens.

The Congress, by House Joint Resolution 546, has designated February 4, 1993, as “National Women and Girls in Sports Day” and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,
President of the United States of America,