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NOTE: The President spoke at 12:40 p.m. in the Old Family Dining Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Letter to Representative William H. Natcher on the Superconducting Super Collider

June 16, 1993

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As your Committee considers the Energy and Water Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1994, I want you to know of my continuing support for the Superconducting Super Collider (SSC).

The most important benefits of the increased understanding gained from the SSC may not be known for a generation. We can, however, be certain that important benefits will result simply from making the effort. The SSC project will stimulate technologies in many areas critical for the health of the U.S. economy. The superconductor technologies developed for the project's magnets will stimulate production of a material that will be critical for ensuring the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers, for improving medical care, and a variety of other purposes. The SSC will also produce critical employment and educational opportunities for thousands of young engineers and scientists around the country.

Abandoning the SSC at this point would signal that the United States is compromising its position of leadership in basic science—a position unquestioned for generations. These are tough economic times, yet our Administration supports this project as a part of its broad investment package in science and technology. Our support requires making sure that the project is well managed and that the Congress is informed of the full costs and anticipated benefits of the program. The SSC previously had an unstable funding profile. The stretched-out funding proposed by our Administration of $640 million in FY 94 will allow better control of project costs. The full cost and scheduling implications of this stretch-out will be complete in the early fall, and will be examined carefully by the Administration at that time.

I ask you to support this important and challenging effort.

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.

Statement on National Service Legislation

June 16, 1993

I've always said that national service would be America at its best. In reporting out the national service legislation, today two key committees were Congress at its best as well.

National service is not about political partisanship. It is about America and the values that all of us share. National service will do so much that must be done: meeting our country's needs, paying for our children's education, and bringing all of us together in the common work of citizenship.

Democrats and Republicans joined together today in a spirit of service to support this initiative. Senator Ted Kennedy and Representative Bill Ford continued to provide exemplary leadership in moving this legislation forward on a bipartisan basis.

We've known for a long time that national service will bring Americans together. It's good to see that it brings Congress together as well.

Statement on Campaign Finance Reform Legislation

June 16, 1993

I congratulate the Senators from both parties who voted to break the filibuster of campaign finance reform. Today the Senate showed it has heard the American people's demand for change. I have long believed that we will not give the middle class the economic growth and health care reform it needs unless we also reform our political sys-