

stood for document that. And I believe that over the long run the Black Caucus and the Clinton administration will continue to be very close. And I've talked to any number of them personally, recently.

Campaign Finance Reform

Q. On campaign finance reform, now that most of the public financing provisions have been removed from the Senate bill, how do you convince people that this is truly meaningful campaign finance reform? And also, will you seek at some point in the future perhaps to put that public financing back into another measure?

The President. First let's see what the House does. Again, this is a bill you're going to have to watch come out of conference. The House will probably adopt a somewhat different bill.

But let's talk about what the Senate bill does do. The Senate bill reduces the influence of PAC's and special interests; it limits the cost of campaigns; it spends public funds, if necessary. If one party violates the spending limits, then the other party can get public funds in the form of communications vouchers so that the airwaves will be open to both parties and people can hear both sides.

So this is a vast advance over the present law in breaking the back of special interest domination of politics and elections. So I like it in that regard. Let's see what the House does. I think we can get a good bill out, and I hope both sides will vote for it.

Capital Gains Tax

Q. Mr. President, will you support the Senate's 10 percent increase in the capital gains tax?

The President. They imposed a 10 percent surcharge because there's now a difference between the capital gains rate and the income rate. And as you know, the theory of the Tax Reform Act of '86 was to level them. Let's see what comes out of the conference report. What I want is a tax system where 75 percent of the burden falls on the top 6 percent of the American people, at least that progressive. And if it is that progressive, then I'm open on the details. But I want to see what the final bill is. That's the key thing: Will the wealthy pay their fair share? Will

it all be in a trust fund to reduce the deficit? And will the ratio be at least as good as the one I showed—\$5 of every \$10 in spending cuts; \$3.75 in tax increases on upper income people; \$1.25 on the middle class.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President's 17th news conference began at 8:02 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. Paul Tsongas was a candidate for the Democratic nomination in the 1992 Presidential campaign.

Proclamation 6573—Father's Day, 1993

June 17, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Traditionally, the third Sunday in June is nationally designated as Father's Day. This year, on June 20th, I call upon all Americans to thank and honor fathers across the land for the love, nurturing, guidance, and sacrifices they have made in behalf of our Nation's daughters and sons.

A key prescription for building strong families is honoring one's parents. As Americans know and as history has witnessed, the acts of dedication to family are essential to our Nation's endurance and spiritual growth. Reaffirming our commitment to fathers is an invaluable element in nurturing the health of our Nation's families.

Fathers perform many roles, and they profoundly influence their children and our society. As co-creators of life, fathers—accepting responsibility for the welfare of their offspring—serve as economic providers, role-models, nurturers, coaches, counselors, and lifelong friends. They also help define and set standards for their children for personal, academic, and professional accomplishments.

Because fathers hold a very special place in our lives, it is fitting that we pay tribute to all fathers now living, as well as the memory of those now deceased. In that spirit, let us as Americans express and demonstrate to our fathers—through word and action—our

appreciation for their love and for the contributions they have made to us and our Nation.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, in accordance with a joint resolution of the Congress approved April 24, 1972 (36 U.S.C. 142a), do hereby proclaim Sunday, June 20, 1993, as "Father's Day." I call upon all Americans to observe this day by demonstrating our respect for and our gratitude to our fathers.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 3:28 p.m., June 17, 1993]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on June 21.

Statement on the Space Station Program

June 17, 1993

At a time when our long-term economic strength depends on our technological leadership and our ability to reduce the deficit, we must invest in technology but invest wisely, making the best possible use of every dollar. That's why I asked for a review of NASA's space station program. Concerns over rising costs and mismanagement raised serious questions about a program vital to our technological leadership. I instructed NASA to redesign the space station program in a way that would preserve its critical science and space research and ensure international cooperation, but significantly reduce costs and improve management.

NASA has met that challenge, offering a plan that will substantially reduce costs to taxpayers, improve management, preserve research, and allow the United States to continue to work with its international partners and keep its international commitments. That was the conclusion of an outstanding

panel of independent experts who carefully reviewed NASA's proposals. And that is my conclusion as well, after thoroughly considering their report and recommendations. It will take not just a redesign of the space station but a redesign of NASA itself.

I am calling for the U.S. to work with our international partners to develop a reduced-cost, scaled-down version of the original Space Station *Freedom*. At the same time, I will also seek to enhance and expand the opportunities for international participation in the space station project so that the space station can serve as a model of nations coming together in peaceful cooperation. Finally, I will be directing NASA to implement personnel reductions and major management changes to cut costs, reduce bureaucracy, and improve efficiency. The national performance review team, led by Vice President Gore, has been essential in working with NASA to develop these management proposals. We are going to redesign NASA at the same time that we redesign the space station.

To make maximum use of our investments and meet the scientific goals we have set, the specific design we will pursue will be a simplified version of Space Station *Freedom* recommended by the review panel. We will work with Congress, NASA, and our international partners during the next 90 days to make the very best use of this design. The details of this proposal will be delivered to Congress within the next few days. I have asked Dr. John Gibbons, my Science and Technology Adviser, to transmit a letter to NASA with more detailed instructions for implementing this decision.

The redesigned program will capitalize on the investments we have already made. However, with its deep cuts in future development and operations costs, this redesigned program will save more than \$4 billion over the next 5 years, compared with our assessments of what the real costs of funding the planned Space Station *Freedom* would have been. Over the 2-decade life of the program, these savings will grow to more than \$18 billion.

There is no doubt that we are facing difficult budget decisions. However, we cannot retreat from our obligation to invest in our