

**Statement on Senate Action on the
“Year 2000 Information and
Readiness Disclosure Act”**

September 29, 1998

I am pleased that the Senate last night passed the “Year 2000 Information and Readiness Disclosure Act,” important bipartisan legislation to help our Nation prepare its computer systems for the new millennium.

This bill, which builds upon a proposal my administration submitted to Congress in July, will help businesses, State and local government, and Federal agencies better address the year 2000 (Y2K) problem by providing limited liability protections to encourage greater information sharing about solutions, while also protecting consumers from misleading advertising or other statements when purchasing products for their own use.

January 1, 2000, is one deadline we cannot push back. I urge the House to pass this critical legislation before the end of the legislative session. I look forward to signing it into law so that Y2K information sharing will enable the Nation to prepare for this global challenge.

**Memorandum on Assistance for
Federal Employees Affected by
Hurricane Georges**

September 29, 1998

*Memorandum for the Heads of Executive
Departments and Agencies*

*Subject: Assistance for Federal Employees
Affected by Hurricane Georges*

I am deeply concerned about the devastating losses suffered by many as a result of Hurricane Georges. Multiple parts of the Federal Government have been mobilized to respond to this disaster.

As part of this effort, I ask the heads of executive departments and agencies who have Federal civilian employees in designated disaster areas resulting from Hurricane Georges and its aftermath (including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands) to use their discretion to excuse from duty, without charge to leave or loss of pay, any

such employee who is prevented from reporting to work or faced with a personal emergency because of this disaster and who can be spared from his or her usual responsibilities. This policy also should be applied to any employee who is needed for emergency law enforcement, relief, or clean-up efforts authorized by Federal, State, or other officials having jurisdiction.

I am also authorizing the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to determine whether there is a need to establish an emergency leave transfer program to assist employees affected by this major disaster. An emergency leave transfer program would permit employees in an executive agency to donate their unused annual leave for transfer to employees of the same or other agencies who were adversely affected by the hurricane and who need additional time off for recovery. If the need for donated annual leave becomes evident, I direct OPM to establish the emergency leave transfer program and provide additional information to agencies on the programs’s administration.

William J. Clinton

**Memorandum on Funding for the
Korean Peninsula Energy
Development Organization**

September 29, 1998

Presidential Determination No. 98-37

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

*Subject: Use of \$10 Million in
Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining
and Related Programs Account Funds and
\$5 Million in Economic Support Funds for
a U.S. Contribution to the Korean Peninsula
Development Organization (KEDO)*

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2364(a)(1) (the “Act”), I hereby determine that it is important to the security interests of the United States to furnish up to \$10 million in funds made available under the heading “Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining and Related Programs” in title II of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing,

and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998 (Public Law 105-118), and \$5 million in funds made available under Chapter 4 of Part II of the Act for the U.S. contribution to KEDO without regard to any provision of law within the scope of section 614(a)(1). I hereby authorize this contribution.

You are hereby authorized and directed to transmit this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

William J. Clinton

Memorandum on Withholding Assistance to the Government of Chad

September 29, 1998

Presidential Determination No. 98-38

Memorandum for the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator of the Agency for International Development

Subject: Presidential Determination Pursuant to Section 582(a) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998, on Withholding Assistance to the Government of Chad

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 582(a) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998 (the "Act"), I hereby:

- (1) determine and certify that the Government of the Republic of Chad is violating a sanction against Libya imposed pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolution 748; and
- (2) direct that funds not yet obligated that were allocated for Chad under section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (the "FAA") out of appropriations in the Act for programs under chapters 4 and 5 of Part II of the FAA shall be withheld from obligation and expenditure for Chad.

The Secretary of State is authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

William J. Clinton

Proclamation 7128—National Disability Employment Awareness Month, 1998

September 29, 1998

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Today America is enjoying great prosperity, with the prospect of an even brighter future in the 21st century. Our economy is the strongest it has been in a generation. We have created more than 16 million new jobs in the past 5 years, and we are witnessing the lowest inflation rate in three decades, the lowest unemployment rate in 28 years, and the smallest welfare rolls in 29 years. But we cannot consider ourselves truly successful until all Americans, including the 30 million working-age adults with disabilities, have access to the tools and opportunities they need to achieve economic independence.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is making it possible for millions of Americans to participate more fully in our society. However, 8 years after the ADA's passage, the unemployment rate among people with disabilities is still far too high. Almost 75 percent of working-age Americans with severe disabilities remain unemployed. If America is to live up to its promise of equal opportunity, and if our economy is to continue to strengthen and expand, we must be able to draw on the untapped energy, talents, and creativity of this large and capable segment of our population.

Last March, I issued an Executive order to establish the National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities and begin to break down the remaining barriers for people with disabilities. I charged the Task Force with creating a coordinated and aggressive national strategy to make equality of opportunity, full participation, inclusion, and economic self-sufficiency a reality for all working-age Americans with disabilities. I have also directed the Attorney General, the Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to increase