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Editor's Note: In order to meet publication and distribution deadlines during the Veterans Day holiday weekend, the cutoff time for this issue has been advanced to 5 p.m. on Thursday, November 9, 2000. Documents released after that time will appear in the next issue.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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Interview With Steve Harvey of KKBT–FM Radio, Los Angeles, California

November 3, 2000

The President. Hey, Steve.

Mr. Harvey. President Clinton.

The President. How are you? We got cut off. I'm glad to hear your voice.

Mr. Harvey. How are you doing? It's okay. How are you doing, brother?

The President. Great.

Mr. Harvey. Great. Glad you could call, man. Sorry we missed each other. You were in Los Angeles. I was supposed to meet you at an event. Sorry we missed each other.

The President. Are you in New York?

Mr. Harvey. No, I'm in Los Angeles right now. Hello?

The President. Yes, I can hear you fine.

Mr. Harvey. Oh, yes. No, I'm in L.A. right now. We were supposed to meet at an event a few weeks ago, and we got—we missed our signal, so we didn't hook up. But ——

The President. Well, I'm sorry I missed you.

Mr. Harvey. That's okay. We got in today. My publicist told me that you're a big fan of mine. I just want to hear you say that out loud. [*Laughter*]

The President. I am a big fan of yours, and I hear all the clapping in the background, so I want to please everybody for you.

Mr. Harvey. Thank you very much, Mr. President. That's all I needed to hear. [*Laughter*] You just pretty much made my whole career. [*Laughter*]

Affirmative Action

President Clinton, we are fans of yours here, on "The Beat." I cannot speak for the entire radio station, but I know I am. I have always been a fan of yours and your work and your community development towards the African-American community. I have one question for you. I want to ask you, point blank, what can African-Americans and the Latino community expect from the Democratic Party in regards to education and affirmative action?

The President. Well, I think first of all, you can expect them to build on the progress of the last 8 years. Remember—let's start with affirmative action—remember, there was a lot of pressure to eliminate affirmative action, both from the Republican Party and from some court decisions, which required us to change it. And we took the position that we should mend it, not end it, and that's the position that Vice President Gore has steadily defended. I noticed in his third debate that he was the only candidate who would say that he was for affirmative action. And I can tell you, we had long, long discussions about this. He believes strongly in it. And I believe virtually every one of our candidates for the Senate and the House does. I know that my wife, who is running for the Senate in New York, strongly feels that way, and I believe all the others do, as well. So I think you can feel very good about that.

Education

Mr. Harvey. Now, also in terms of education for the same communities.

The President. On the education issue, I think the choices are quite clear here. The Vice President and all the Democratic candidates, first of all, think that America ought to know our schools are getting better and our students are doing better. Reading scores, math scores, science scores are all up. In the last 7 years, there has been a 500 percent increase in African-American students taking advanced placement courses, a 300 percent increase in Latino students taking advanced placement courses. The college-going rate is at an all-time high because we have pushed through the Congress the biggest increase in student aid, from Pell grants to work-study grants to the Hope scholarship tax credit, in 50 years.

So what does Al Gore want to do? What do the rest of our Democrats want to do? They want to finish the job of putting 100,000 qualified teachers in our schools. They want to provide funds to poor school districts especially, and growing school districts, to build new school buildings and to overhaul others. They want to finish the work of connecting all the schools in the country to the Internet and all the classrooms. When Al Gore took on this project for our administration in 1994, only 3 percent of the classrooms were connected. Today, 65 percent of the classrooms are, and 90 percent of the poorest schools have at least one Internet connection. So we want to do that.

He wants to provide universal preschool and more after-school programs for the kids who need it, and he wants tax deductibility for college tuition. Plus which, we have a Hispanic Education Action Plan that is designed to deal with the fact that the dropout rate among Latino students is still too high, and he has promised to build on that. So we've got a very, very good education program. It's been our top domestic priority, and I think you can really depend on the Vice President to deliver. That's why both the major teachers' organizations have endorsed him, and a lot of other educators around the country, because they believe that we have a program based on the research and what the educators are saying.

And one final thing. He has got a good accountability program that we ought to identify failing schools, turn them around, or open them under new management. And all over America, you see these schools that were in trouble just a couple of years ago that are turning around. I was in a school in Harlem the other day where 2 years ago 80 percent of the children were doing math and reading below grade level, and today, three-quarters of the kids are doing math and reading above or at grade level. That's after only 2 years. So we've got a program that's working out there at the grassroots. We need to bring it to all of America, and you can trust Al Gore to do that. He cares a lot about it, and you can trust the Democratic Party. It's our issue. We care about it.

2000 Election

Mr. Harvey. Absolutely. Now, President, you were at the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza on yesterday. Three thousand supporters came out. We thank you for stopping by, lending your support to the campaign. We thank you for all of the work you have done over the past 8 years. And we do applaud you in both of these directions, especially in terms of education and affirmative action. We appreciate you so much. We know you're busy; we know you're on a tight schedule. And hey, man, we just want to say thank you for calling.

The President. Well, thank you, Steve. Let me say, I wanted to go back to Watts, a place I've been visiting for many years now, to thank the people of Watts, of L.A., and of California for being so good to me and Hillary and Al and Tipper Gore these last 8 years, and for proving that we could turn America around economically, educationally, environmentally, that we could provide more health insurance. And you know there's a lot of laboratories of success there.

But I also wanted to emphasize that in California and throughout this country, there are races for the Congress, for the Senate and the House, which are also terribly important. They are just as close as the Presidential race. And if we can win a majority in the House and in the Senate, we'll be in a position to really pull this country together and move forward to build on the progress of the last 8 years, to keep the prosperity going. That's really why the young people of this country ought to get out and vote, because we have come so far in the last 8 years, but all the best things are still out there. When Al Gore says, "You ain't seen nothing yet," that's not just politics. We can turn the country around, and now we can make big, big strides in the economy, in education, in health care, the environment, and pulling this country together. But we've got to have the right leadership. And these House and Senate races are also very, very, very important.

Post-Presidential Plans

Mr. Harvey. Yes. Quickly, Mr. President, after it's all over, when the election is done and Gore is President and you finally, after

8 very successful years, step down, what do you see yourself doing, man? What do you think?

The President. Well, first of all, I've got to be an ordinary citizen again, and I've got to go out and make a living, so I'll do that. But what I want to do is find a way to be a useful citizen, in a way that does not in any manner interfere with the next President. Jimmy Carter has been a very great ex-President; he's done a lot of good. I think that I'm young enough that I could still do a lot of good, and I feel that I owe that to the American people and the people I've worked with all around the world—in Africa and Latin America and other places. But I want to take a couple months off to rest, consider what my options are, and then try to spend the rest of my life giving back in the public interest, because I have been very blessed. I've gotten to live my dreams. I've had a great life, and I just want to be helpful in any way that I can, and I'll try to find some good things to do.

Mr. Harvey. Well, I'll tell you, President, after it's all over, my TV show ends on December 21st, and I've been working pretty much hard like a President myself. [*Laughter*] I say me and you, man, get a fishing boat and go on out there in the middle of the lake and do some bass fishing. I know you're from Arkansas; I'm from West Virginia. You know something about some fishing, I'm sure.

The President. I do. I can still do that. [*Laughter*]

Mr. Harvey. We ought to hook up and go fishing.

The President. It sounds like a good idea to me.

Mr. Harvey. Steve and Bill on the boat. [*Laughter*]

The President. That's right.

Mr. Harvey. Hey, thanks for calling, President. Thank you so much.

The President. Well, you just tell everybody to go vote so we'll feel good when we go fishing instead of worrying about things. [*Laughter*]

Mr. Harvey. Well, you better believe that's what it's all about. We are pushing hard to get out and vote on this coming election, and we're going to do our very best to put Vice President Gore in office, because we can't take the other side. We just can't take it. We just can't take it. I will see to that.

Thank you for calling, President Clinton.

The President. Bless you, Steve. Thank you.

Mr. Harvey. Thank you. Absolutely. You all, one more time, the President of the United States, Bill Clinton.

The President. Thank you. Bye-bye.

NOTE: The interview began at 9:40 a.m. The President spoke via telephone aboard Air Force One from Oakland International Airport in Oakland, CA. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Remarks at a Get Out the Vote Rally in San Francisco, California

November 3, 2000

The President. Thank you very much. Are you ready to win this election?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. I want to thank the mayor for bringing us all together today and for being my friend for all these years. I want to thank the some 2,000 people who are outside the hall today, still listening to us. I'll be out there to see you in a minute. I want to thank California's great Governor, Gray Davis, who's been with me every step of the way and has been great for Al Gore, right from the start, never wavered.

I want to thank Representative Barbara Lee from Oakland, who just had a rally for us over there. And my good friend Congressman Tom Lantos, who went to New York to campaign for my wife for the Senate, I'll never forget that. And most of all, I want to thank Nancy Pelosi, who has worked so hard to bring the Democrats back. She is a leader in the Congress, a leader in the country, and she'll be in the majority after Tuesday night.

I want to thank Walter Shorenstein for having the guts to stand up here and say he didn't need the tax cut, and he wanted you to have it. I love him; thank you. And I want to thank a man who has been a hero of mine for more than 40 years: Willie Mays. He's

been so wonderful to me all these years I've been President. Thank you, Willie. Thank you.

And I want to thank this great choir behind me from Glide. I love these folks. And I want you to sing again for me after I speak, okay? Will you do that?

Now look, I would like to just sort of give a speech here and have one applause line after another and you could cheer. But we all know that we're all converted or we wouldn't be here. [*Laughter*] So I want to ask you to, just for a minute—give me about 5 minutes, because I want to ask you to do something else. Every one of you has lots of friends who have never come to an event like this, don't you, never came to a rally where the President spoke, maybe the Governor, maybe not even where Willie spoke, although I think he has spoken to every living person within 150 miles. [*Laughter*]

But these folks you know that don't follow this as closely as you do, they will vote, or they might vote if they know it matters, and they would certainly vote with us if they knew what the choice was and what the consequences are.

And many of you have friends who live outside San Francisco, live in one of these congressional districts where we're trying to win a Democratic seat; or maybe you have friends beyond the State of California, who live in battleground States where one or 2 or 3 or 10 votes could make a difference.

Now, you look at this vast crowd today. If every one of you decided that every day between now and the election you were going to tell 10 people why you are for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman, why you want the Democrats to win, what the stakes are in the election, you might have a decisive impact on whether we win the House and on how well we do in some of these other areas of California and in other States.

So I just want to tell you what I believe this election is about, what I think the signal differences are, and what the choice is for America. I want to begin by thanking the people of San Francisco and California for being so good to me and Hillary and Al and Tipper Gore these last 8 years. I can't thank you enough. It has been an honor to serve.

But let's start with this. There are a lot of younger people who can vote now, and I'm the only President they've ever known. [*Laughter*] And there are a lot of people who literally don't remember what it was like 8 years ago when the unemployment rate in California was nearly 10 percent; the society was divided; crime was going up; there were riots in L.A.; the environment was deteriorating; the schools were troubled; the number of people without health insurance going up every year—we had all these problems. And the political system in Washington was pretty unresponsive. And I came here and asked you to give us a chance to put the American people first again.

Now, President Reagan used to say the test for whether somebody got reelected was, or whether a party was continued in office was whether you were better off than you were 8 years ago. Now, all of a sudden, they have forgotten that test, another party. They think there ought to be some other test, you know. Or they think if we're better off, the Democrats had nothing to do with it.

One of Al Gore's finest moments in the first debate was when his opponent said, "I think Clinton/Gore got a lot more out of the economy than the economy got out of Clinton/Gore. The American people have been working hard. They brought this economy back." And Al Gore said, "Yes, the American people have been working hard, but they were working hard in 1992 when it was in the dumps, and it's different now."

So I want to say, the first big question: Do you want to keep this prosperity going and give it to the people who aren't a part of it yet? [*Applause*] If you do, you only have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and the Democrats. But you've got to be able to tell somebody in a couple of minutes, why. So let me explain that, in a couple of minutes.

Here's the Gore/Lieberman Democratic program: Keep paying down the debt. Why? It keeps interest rates low; it keeps the economy going. Take what's left and invest it in education, health care, and the environment and a tax cut we can afford for average Americans for child care, long-term care, college tuition, and retirement savings. That's the Gore plan.

What's the alternative? A tax cut that's 3 times as big. Although most of you would do better under the Gore plan—after I get out of office, I might do better under theirs. [*Laughter*] And to privatize Social Security and promise to spend money on their own.

Here's the problem. This is arithmetic. People ask me all the time, "Mr. President, what great new idea did you bring to economic policy?" And I say, arithmetic. Arithmetic. [*Laughter*] You've got to make the numbers add up. Now look, everybody can remember this. The projected surplus is $2 trillion. We'll forget about the zeros—2. They want to spend over three-quarters of it on a tax cut that benefits mostly upper income people. It costs 1.6 trillion, with interest. Then they want to privatize Social Security, and that costs a trillion dollars. Why? Because if the young folks here take your money out of Social Security and put it in the stock market, but people like me get promised we're going to get our money, the money has got to come from somewhere. It costs a trillion dollars.

Then they want to spend some money. They want to spend about half a trillion dollars, that's .5. Here's the problem: The surplus is 2, right—1.6 for the tax cut plus 1 to privatize Social Security plus .5 to spend is 3.1—3.1 is bigger than 2. [*Laughter*]

This is not rocket science, folks. [*Laughter*] If you vote for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and the Democrats, interest rates will be about a percent lower every year for a decade. Do you know what that means? Lower car loans, lower college loans, lower home mortgages, lower credit cards, lower business loans, more businesses, more jobs, higher stock market.

Now look, this is a big deal. This is the first economic recovery in 30 years where we're all going along for the ride. It's a Democratic recovery, big "D" and small "d"; we're all going along—average income up 15 percent, average income over $40,000 for the first time, poverty among seniors below 10 percent for the first time, poverty at a 20-year low, a 30 percent drop in child poverty, half the people moving from welfare to work. This is a different America, because we did it to benefit everybody and because the numbers add up.

So you can remember that. If you want to keep the recovery going, you've got to vote for Gore. Why? Because 3.1 is bigger than 2; it doesn't add up. [*Laughter*]

Number two, it's not just a better off country; it's a better country. What do I mean by that? Crime at a 26-year low; the number of people without health insurance going down for the first time in a dozen years; cleaner air, cleaner water, safer food, safer drinking water; more toxic waste dumps cleaned up, 3 times as many as they did; and more land set aside forever than in any administration since that of Theodore Roosevelt 100 years ago.

But most important of all, there is the revival of American education. That's why Bob Chase, the president of the National Education Association is here for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman today. Thank you, Bob, for being here with us.

Now look, here are the facts. Reading, math, and science scores are up. The dropout rate is down. The college-going rate is at an all-time high, thanks in part to the biggest expansion of college aid since the GI bill. Thanks to Barbara Boxer, we are now serving 800,000 kids in after-school programs around America. We're putting 100,000 teachers in the classroom. We're moving in the right direction. We have 1,700 charter schools in America. We have a program to turn around failing schools or put them under new management. We're moving in the right direction.

So here's the issue. If education and health care and the environment and crime are moving in the right direction, do you want to build on the progress of the last 8 years and even do better?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. Well, if you do—if you do, there's only one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and the Democrats. Why? If somebody asks you, you have to be able to say why. Why? Because the other party has promised—promised—to do the following things: to abolish our program to put 100,000 and more police on the street, to abolish our program to put 100,000 teachers in the classroom for smaller classes in the early grades, to oppose our program to promote school

construction, to build new schools and repair old ones.

They're against our program for a Patients' Bill of Rights, for Medicare drugs for all our seniors, to expand coverage to all the children of the country and the parents of children in the Children's Health Program. And they are against the tighter clean air standards we have adopted. They want to repeal my order setting aside 40 million roadless acres in the national forests.

Now, those are commitments, right? So here's your choice. If everything is going in the right direction and one ticket wants to build on it and the other ticket wants to reverse what was done, it's not much of a choice. But you've got to be able to say that. You've got to be able to say, crime is down; the schools are better; the environment is cleaner; we're making progress in health care; and everything that we have done, they want to undo. Instead, vote for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman; they will build on it and do even better. That is the second choice.

So here's the third choice. Here's the third big question. And for me, the most important of all. Yes, I want to keep building on the prosperity. Yes, I want to keep building on the progress. But most of all, I want us to keep building together as one America across all the lines that divide us.

This country has become more and more diverse. California, our first State in which Americans of European heritage are no longer in the majority. There is no majority here; we're all just here, folks.

We've tried for the last 8 years to make you feel at home, to make you feel that you had friends in the White House, people that cared about you. Whatever your racial or religious background, whether you were a man or a woman, whether you were young or old, whether you were straight or gay, we wanted you to feel like you had a friend in the White House.

Now, what did that mean in practical terms? We fought for family leave, the minimum wage; we fought to mend but not end affirmative action; we fought for fairness for immigrants; we're fighting for hate crimes legislation, for employment nondiscrimination legislation, for equal pay for women enforcement. We are fighting for court appointments so that we'll have a Supreme Court that will defend civil rights, human rights, and a woman's right to choose. That is an issue.

In every one of those areas, the people who are running on the other side have an honest disagreement with the Democrats. The leadership does not agree with the hate crimes legislation or the employment nondiscrimination legislation or strengthening the equal pay laws. And they certainly don't commit themselves to a Supreme Court and Federal courts that will preserve civil rights, human rights, and a woman's right to choose.

Now, they disagree honestly. But for people to say there are no differences in these elections—you should be happy. The country is in great shape and you have choices. But it's important to understand what the choices are. You don't have to say a bad word about any of their candidates from the President on down. You can just say, look, we have a different view of what's good for America.

But I'm telling you, the reason this election is so close is that I think people feel a certain comfort level with how well things are going. And you know, this one sounds good, and that one sounds good, and today I like this one, today I like the other one.

But this is an exercise in citizenship. And I'm telling you, I've been doing this a long time now. This is the first time in 26 years I haven't been on the ballot at election time. [*Laughter*] And I'm perfectly happy out here campaigning for the Democrats for Congress and for Hillary for Senator and for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman. I'm grateful.

But what you have to do—I'm telling you, you can do this for people. You can walk up to people you know; you can walk up to people you don't know. But I'm telling you, you cannot let this election unfold unless everybody you know votes and votes as a knowledgeable citizen. If you want to build on the prosperity, if you want to build on the social progress of the last 8 years, if you want to keep going forward as one America where we keep coming together, across all the lines that divide us, those are the three big questions.

And if you want to do that, you only have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and the Democrats.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:50 p.m. in the Esplanade Ballroom at the Moscone Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Willie Brown of San Francisco; Walter H. Shorenstein, founder and president, Shorenstein Company, LP; and former professional baseball player Willie Mays. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Exchange With Reporters in San Francisco

November 3, 2000

Nader Campaign Supporters

Q. Mr. President, do you have any message for Nader supporters in California or elsewhere? Do you have any message for Nader supporters about what they should do?

The President. I think they ought to vote for Al Gore, for several reasons. One is, our administration, as I just said, has the best environmental record in history. And we could have done even more if the Congress hadn't been so opposed to it. But every year, we also, for 6 years, had to beat back any number of anti-environmental provisions in the law that we keep getting out and getting out. So Al Gore has been at the forefront of that.

I think now that the economy is better and the Congress is likely to be, under any circumstances, less dominated by the Republican right in the next Congress, Al Gore will be able to do even better. It would be a great mistake to not support somebody who has got a lifetime commitment, and we've got a record that's good in favor of another option of a party that's really promised to undo a lot of what we've done. I don't think it's a complicated issue here.

Q. Do you think they're throwing their votes away if they do that?

The President. They'll have to decide that. I just know that—there are one of two people are going to be elected, and they have records and plans. And I think on the records and plans, if you care about the environment, Gore wins hands down.

Thanks. Thank you.

NOTE: The exchange began at 1:12 p.m. in the Moscone Convention Center following a voter rally. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Remarks at a Get Out the Vote Rally in San Jose, California

November 3, 2000

The President. Thank you very much. Are you ready to win this election?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. Let me say, first, to all of you, how very glad I am to be back in San Jose. I want to thank Mayor Gonzales and all the people here who have always made me feel so welcome. I've had some of my happiest days as a candidate and as a President in this part of the wonderful State of California. Of course, my daughter has lived near here for the last 3 years.

I was reminding Governor Davis that in 1992 we had 10,000 people at San Jose State, and it was the most exuberant rally in the entire campaign. It was an amazing thing. I'll never forget it.

I'm delighted to be on the stage with all these folks today—our State Democratic chair, Art Torres; your wonderful Representative in Congress, Zoe Lofgren. I am so proud of her. I love being with her. Secretary Norm Mineta, my great friend, what a credit he has been to San Jose and all of California. You should be so proud of him.

And it means especially a lot to me that Willie Mays came here with me today. He's been here with me so many times, and I'm very grateful. You know, one of the great things about—we just had the World Series, so I want to say this—one of the great things about being President is that if you have a particular interest, you can pretty much get anybody who is involved in it to come and talk to you. [*Laughter*]

I love music, and I love sports. And I became a friend of Hank Aaron who, as all of you know, owns the all-time home run record. So there was a celebration of the 25th anniversary of Hank Aaron breaking Babe Ruth's record in Atlanta. And Hank invited me to go down, and I did. There were 12

Hall of Fame baseball players there. And so I said to Hank Aaron, "Who is the greatest player you ever played with?" He said, "It's not even close. Willie Mays is the greatest baseball player who ever played."

I want to say, are there any students from San Jose State here? [*Applause*] I want all of you to know that when I landed in my helicopter today, I had the enormous honor to meet your young football player Neil Parry—who was injured and lost his foot—and his family. They're in good spirits. They've got their heads up. He told me he was going to play football next year, and he wanted me to come watch him, and I told him I'd have some more time, and I'd be honored to come back and see him.

I want to thank Gray Davis for being a truly astonishing Governor. He has gotten so much done in so little time. You should be very, very, very proud of him. He has also been a true friend to me and a loyal supporter of Vice President Gore, and we're going to celebrate here Tuesday night, in no small measure because Gray Davis never blinked when things looked bad, and now they look good all over America. Thank you, Gray Davis.

And I'll just tell you, I am so proud of Mike Honda. We had a talk the last—this is the second time I've been in his district to campaign for him, and we were talking about what it was like to be young and Japanese in America when we made the terrible mistake of interning Japanese-Americans during the war.

One of those internment camps was in my home State. And I'll never forget when I went back to Hawaii to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. I met a veteran who told me that he was interned in a camp in Arkansas. And he said, "I may be the only person who came out ahead, because I met my wife across the river in Mississippi. They were the only family that I knew who were Japanese-Americans where I could get what I thought was good food." [*Laughter*]

So our country has come a long way in the last 50 years, and Mike Honda is the embodiment of both that past and the bright future ahead of us, and I thank you for helping him.

Look up here on this stage. Is this America or what? [*Applause*] You have a Latino party chair; an African-American baseball legend; a Japanese-American Secretary of Commerce; the daughter of a truck driver, as she just said, in Congress—they probably make more than people in Congress do now—Zoe Lofgren; a Japanese-American candidate for Congress; and two representatives of the gray-haired white guys' caucus. [*Laughter*] Is this America, or what?

Look, I want to just take a few minutes—you know, we're so exuberant; we're all feeling good. And I could just give you a few applause lines, and we could scream for 5 minutes. But I want you to give me a chance to speak with you seriously, just for a couple of minutes, for the following reasons.

The Presidential race is close, even though the Vice President has a good lead in California. A lot of these Congress races are close. There are five House seats we could pick up here in California if we won every close one presently held by a Republican; and one where we have a truly outstanding Congressman, Cal Dooley, who is in a tough race himself for reelection—one of the most outstanding people in the entire United States Congress.

And what I want to say to all of you is that every one of you has friends in this congressional district where Mike will be running, a little south of here, where Lois Capps is running for reelection—one of the most wonderful people I've ever known—and in other places where we have battles here in California. Most of you have friends in other States where the outcome of the election is not yet clear. There are 12 or 15 States where this election is still within two to three points.

And what I would like to ask you to do is to leave here not only energized and determined to vote, but to leave here committed to talking to as many people as you can between now and Tuesday—in this congressional district, throughout the State of California, and if you have friends or family in other States. Because if you look at how many thousand people there are here, you could easily touch 100,000 voters between now and election day. And those 100,000 voters might make the difference.

In 1960, when President Kennedy, who inspired my generation—I was barely alive then—[*laughter*]—when President Kennedy inspired my generation, he was elected by four-tenths of one percent of the vote—100,000 votes in the entire country. Now, all of you, with no effort, could touch 100,000 voters—with no effort. That's less than 10 a day for every person here. You could do it, easily.

And here's what I think you ought to say to them. Number one: Remember what it was like 8 years ago, when the economy was in trouble; the society was divided; there were riots in Los Angeles; the crime rate was going up; the welfare rolls were going up; the number of people without health insurance was going up; people were giving up on the schools. The society was divided, and the political system in Washington seemed absolutely tone-deaf to it.

And you gave Al Gore and me a chance to go to Washington to put the American people first, to create opportunity for every responsible citizen in a community of all Americans. And it worked.

So what I want to say to you is, what's the problem? Why are the races even close? Because things have been good for a long time. And sometimes when they're good for a long time, people forget what they were like before, and they think there are no consequences to the decision before them. Well, first one candidate sounds pretty good, then the other one sounds pretty good. This sounds like a good idea, but on the other hand, that sounds like a good idea.

Look, there are just three big questions in this race, and I want to tell you what they are and what the choice is. Everybody knows we've had the longest economic expansion in history, but what not everybody knows is, it's the first one in 30 years where we all got to go along for the ride. Now, what do I mean by that?

In the last 8 years, Hispanic unemployment has been cut by more than half, African-American unemployment in half, the lowest African-American and Hispanic unemployment in history; poverty is at a 20-year low; child poverty is down 30 percent, poverty among seniors below 10 percent for the first time in our history; average income up 15 percent—over $5,000—over the last 8 years after inflation. We're all going along for the ride.

So the first question is, do you want to keep this prosperity going?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. Well, if you do, there's a choice. Now, if someone asks you to explain it, how would you say it? This is the answer: With Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Mike Honda, you will get to keep the prosperity going. Why? Because, number one, they'll keep paying the debt down, which means interest rates will stay down, and the economy will stay strong.

That's very important. Paying the debt down gives you lower interest rates. What does that mean to all of you? Lower home mortgages, lower car payments, lower college loan payments, lower credit card payments, lower business loan payments, means more businesses, more jobs, a higher stock market. The rich get richer, but so do the rest of you. This is very important.

Then, with the money that's left, we will invest in education, health care, and the environment, and give the American people a tax cut we can afford for child care, for long-term care, for college tuition tax deductions, and for retirement. That's the Democratic plan.

Now, so what's the choice? Look at the Republican plan. They have a tax cut that's 3 times as big. It costs $1.6 trillion. And keep in mind now, the surplus is estimated to be $2 trillion. I'll be surprised if it's that much, but that's the estimate today—$2 trillion. So you can forget about the zeroes and just remember 2. So they've got this big tax cut, 1.6 trillion. Most of you would be better off under the Gore/Lieberman plan. And some of the rest of us—you know, if I get out and get lucky, I would be better off under their plan in the short run. But it's not right, and here's why.

It's so big—$1.6 trillion. Then, they want to partially privatize Social Security. Now, that costs another trillion dollars. Why? Because if all of you who are young take your payroll tax out and put it in the stock market, they've still got to pay all of us that are 55 or over 100 percent of the benefits they promised. You can't spend the money twice,

so you have to put another trillion in. Okay, so that's 1.6 plus 1. Then, they want to spend about a half a trillion dollars, .5. But the surplus is only 2. Now, 1.6 plus 1 plus .5 is 3.1; 3.1 is bigger than 2. It's all you have to remember.

So what does that mean? That means that even though they spend less money than Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Mike Honda will, they'll be—on education, on health care, and on the environment—we'll still be back in deficits. It means higher interest rates. It means you will pay more for home mortgages, more for college loans, more for car payments, more for credit cards, more for business loans. It means higher interest rates, more inflation, and a slower economy. This is not complicated.

But you need to be able to explain to people. I get the feeling people think, well, this one sounds good; that one sounds good. This is a huge choice. We tried it our way for 8 years. Then we tried it the deficit way before for 12 years. Our way works better. Go tell the American people, if you want to keep the prosperity going, you've got to do this.

Now, here's the second point. It's not just about prosperity. We're not just better off; this country is better than it was 8 years ago. What do I mean by that? Listen. The crime rate has gone down every year, to a 26-year low. The welfare rolls have been cut in half, to a 32-year low. Teen pregnancy is down; teen drug abuse is down. The number of people without health insurance is down for the first time in 12 years, thanks to the Children's Health Insurance Program. The environment is up—the air is cleaner; the water is cleaner. We've cleaned up 3 times as many toxic waste dumps in 8 years as they did in 12 and set aside more land permanently than any administration since Theodore Roosevelt, 100 years ago.

Now, finally—finally—the schools are getting better; education is getting better. On all the—the national test scores show reading scores are up; math scores are up; science scores are up. The dropout rate is down; the college-going rate is at an all-time high, thanks in part to the biggest expansion of college aid under our administration in 50 years. So we're moving in the right direction.

So here's the second question: Do you want to keep the progress of the last 8 years going? Now, just like on the economy, you have a choice. If you vote for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Mike Honda, in health care, you get a Patients' Bill of Rights; you get a Medicare drug benefit for all the seniors who need it; you get more health care coverage for children and lower income working families that can't afford it. You get a commitment to a clean environment, including a clean energy conservation future. You get more police on the street. You get 100,000 more teachers in the classroom and funds to build or modernize schools all across America where they're in trouble. And you get a tax deduction for the cost of college tuition.

Now, the other party, from top to bottom, has committed to do the following: To abolish the 100,000 police program and oppose our commonsense gun safety measures; to abolish the 100,000 teacher program before we finish that. They're against the real Patients' Bill of Rights and against the Medicare drug program that all our seniors can buy into. And they don't agree with our clean energy conservation future. They think we can drill our way out of the hole we're in.

Now, it's not like there's not a choice. But if you want to build on the prosperity and the progress of the last 8 years, you only have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Honda.

Now, here's question number three. Now, here is the third big question. And in some ways, it's the most important of all, although it's not as high on the political radar screen. It is whether we're going to continue to build one America, where every law-abiding citizen feels a part, an equal part, and feels that the Government in Washington—especially in the White House, but also in the Congress—is on their side, and even when I don't agree with you, I have a listening ear.

I have tried to make you feel that the White House was your house these last 8 years. Without regard to your race, your religion, your gender, whether you were straight or gay, whether you were Native American or European-American, whatever, I tried to make the American people feel that they had

someone in the White House who was looking out for them.

Now, what do we do? The family leave law; mending but not ending affirmative action; fighting for fairness for immigrants and for civil rights; fighting for AmeriCorps, which is active here in San Jose and all across America.

Now, there's a choice here. If you vote for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Mike Honda, in the area of one America you get people who want to pass hate crimes legislation, employment nondiscrimination legislation, equal pay for women legislation, and a Supreme Court that will defend civil rights, human rights, and a woman's right to choose.

In every area—in every area, our friends in the other party are against the strong hate crimes bill, against the employment nondiscrimination bill, against the bill to strengthen equal pay for women, and they have made it clear that the Supreme Court they want is a very different one.

So it's not like there is no choice. But you see, that's what's so frustrating. Because if everyone knew what the choice was and understood the consequences, we'd win. That's why I asked you, when I started, to listen and not just cheer, and to spend every moment you can in the next 4 days talking to your friends who would never come to a rally like this, but will vote or would vote if they knew what was at stake—not only here, but throughout the State and throughout the Nation. It is worth your time.

So now you know, you can call people and say, "Look, there are three big questions here. Do you want to keep the prosperity going; do you want to keep the progress going; do you want to keep building one America?"

If you look at California, you see a picture of tomorrow's America. And believe me, if you think about the scientific and technological changes and the demographic changes here, these kids that are here in this audience today are going to live in the most exciting, prosperous, interesting time in the history of the world.

More than anything else, this election is for them. And I'm glad there are so many young people here today, because this is your election and your future and your century.

So will you do this for the next 4 days? Will you go out and call your friends and talk to your friends? [*Applause*] And just tell them, if you want to keep the prosperity going, if you want to keep the progress going, if you want to keep building one America, there is only one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Honda.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:43 p.m. in the Parkside Ballroom at the San Jose Civic Center. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Ron Gonzales of San Jose; Gov. Gray Davis of California; former professional baseball players Willie Mays and Hank Aaron; and Mike Honda, candidate for California's 15th Congressional District. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Statement on Pipeline Safety

November 3, 2000

Today my administration is taking significant steps to ensure the safety of Americans living and working near the more than 2 million miles of oil and gas pipeline that crisscross our country. These pipelines are vital to our economy and our daily lives. But when they fail, they can damage the environment, contaminate our drinking water, threaten the safety of our communities, and put human lives at risk. Recent tragedies in Bellingham, Washington, and near Carlsbad, New Mexico, have underscored the need to improve pipeline safety nationwide.

Despite efforts in both the House and the Senate, there has been no final action this year on legislation to improve pipeline safety. Consequently, we are taking two actions today to strengthen protections for communities across the country. First, the Department of Transportation is issuing strong new requirements for large hazardous liquid pipeline operators to regularly inspect and promptly repair pipelines in populated and environmentally sensitive areas and to take systematic steps to detect and prevent leaks. Second, I am directing the Secretary of Transportation to take additional steps leading to stronger pipeline safety standards, improved enforcement, enhanced Federal-State partnerships, increased public access to

information, and more innovative technology. Together, these actions will help ensure that our pipeline system is sound, our communities are safe, and our environment is protected.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Memorandum on Pipeline Safety

November 3, 2000

Memorandum for the Secretary of Transportation

Subject: Pipeline Safety

Over 2 million miles of oil and gas pipeline crisscross our country. These pipelines help transport the products that fuel our cars and heat our homes. While the safety record of our Nation's pipeline system is strong, accidents still occur. That is why we need to continue our efforts to improve pipeline safety nationwide.

Preventing pipeline failures is imperative to protecting our communities and our natural resources. These failures can damage the environment, contaminate our drinking water, threaten the safety of our communities, and put human lives at risk. The tragic accidents that recently occurred near Carlsbad, New Mexico, and in Bellingham, Washington, profoundly underscore the need for stronger pipeline safety measures. We simply cannot allow these fatal tragedies to be repeated.

To improve pipeline safety, the Department of Transportation (DOT or Department) has worked diligently to curb third-party damage, one of the leading causes of pipeline failures today. As a result, incidents caused by third-party damage have been reduced by 30 percent. In addition, to help prevent spills, DOT has sponsored research to develop new inspection technologies that find dents and other excavation damage. The Department has also increased pipeline protections by requiring improved corrosion control, and is working on the first comprehensive National Pipeline Mapping System. This important new mapping tool will provide States, communities, and the public with the information they need to better protect themselves, their families, and their environment.

Although my Administration has made progress in addressing important pipeline safety and environmental concerns, we also recognized the need for a more focused statutory direction in this area. In an effort to improve our Federal pipeline safety program, my Administration proposed comprehensive pipeline safety legislation in April of this year. The "Pipeline Safety and Community Protection Act of 2000" was developed to address five basic principles: (1) improve pipeline safety standards, (2) strengthen enforcement of pipeline safety laws and regulations, (3) enhance Federal-State partnerships, (4) provide the public with better information and opportunities to participate, and (5) support research and development of innovative pipeline safety technologies. Despite significant efforts, the Congress has not passed comprehensive pipeline safety legislation this year. My Administration continues to support efforts by the Congress to strengthen our Federal pipeline safety law to address the five key principles outlined above. In the interim, however, we are prepared to take action to fulfill these principles to the greatest extent possible using existing authorities.

As an example, I am pleased that today, the Administrator of the Research and Special Programs Administration is signing a new regulation that will greatly enhance pipeline safety measures in areas sensitive to damage from hazardous liquid pipeline accidents. This regulation will provide additional safeguards for populated areas, environmentally sensitive areas, and commercially navigable waterways. Under the new integrity management programs required by this regulation, hazardous liquid pipeline operators that operate 500 or more miles of pipeline will conduct an initial testing of their pipelines within 7 years and periodically, in most instances, every 5 years using internal inspection, pressure testing, or other equivalent testing technology. They will also be required to carry out prompt repairs, and use prevention and mitigation measures as necessary to reduce potential impacts to safety and the environment.

But even more can be done. To help ensure that American in the 21st century has the safest pipeline system possible, I am directing you to take the following actions to strengthen the Federal pipeline safety program and improve pipeline safety nationwide. These actions are based on the five principles set forth above, and are to be carried out in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Energy, the Attorney General, the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, as appropriate.

(1) *Improve pipeline safety standards.* To fulfill requirements of Federal pipeline safety law, and in response to recommendations by the National Transportation Safety Board and the Department's Inspector General, I direct DOT to:

(a) issue a final rulemaking within 30 days to define environmentally sensitive areas in which hazardous liquid pipeline operators must develop and follow integrity management plans.

(b) develop and begin implementing no later than January 15, 2001, a comprehensive plan for further improving hazardous liquid and natural gas pipeline safety standards. This should address the need for additional regulations implementing integrity management programs for all hazardous liquid pipeline operators and natural gas transmission pipeline operators. The plan should also include a schedule for the prompt proposal of regulations for adequate corrosion control of hazardous liquid and natural gas pipelines, including cathodic protection. Appropriate new standards should be developed through notice and comment rulemaking, in accordance with all applicable Executive Orders, and in consultation with other Federal departments and agencies, States, tribes, industry, labor, pipeline safety advocates, environmental organizations, and the public; and

(c) ensure that integrity management programs and operator qualification programs are thoroughly reviewed by the Department. These reviews should examine whether operators are using internal inspection, leak detection, and emergency flow restricting devices, where necessary, as a part of their integrity management programs. If, after reviewing an integrity management program, you determine that a program is inadequate for ensuring the safe operation of a pipeline facility, you should use existing authorities to require that the operator revise the program accordingly, including requiring the use of internal inspection devices where appropriate. If, after reviewing an operator qualification program, you determine that a program is inadequate for ensuring the safe operation of a pipeline facility, you should use existing authorities to require the operator to revise the program accordingly, including requiring the use of examination or testing methods beyond the observation of on-the-job performance.

(2) *Strengthen enforcement of pipeline safety laws and regulations.* To improve the enforcement of pipeline safety laws and regulations, and in accordance with the recommendations of the General Accounting Office, I direct you promptly to assess the efficacy and current use of all enforcement tools available to the Office of Pipeline Safety. Based on the findings of this assessment, and in coordination with the Attorney General, you should begin developing a policy designed to ensure strong, consistent, and effective enforcement of pipeline safety standards and compliance, including deterring noncompliance, with pipeline safety regulations.

(3) *Enhance Federal-State partnerships.* Building on existing experience and considering input already received from State regulators, I direct you to issue guidelines, within 60 days, outlining opportunities and responsibilities for States to participate in the oversight of interstate pipelines. Under these guidelines, States should be allowed to participate in new construction and incident investigation, as well as additional oversight of interstate pipeline transportation that will

add to overall pipeline safety and address local concerns. In addition, under these agreements, States should be allowed to participate in the review of integrity management, operator qualification, and damage prevention programs.

(4) *Provide the public with better information and opportunities to participate.* To improve public right-to-know and opportunities for public involvement while promoting safety, I direct you to initiate activities, including development of a comprehensive plan, that expand public participation in pipeline decisions and provide increased access to gas and hazardous liquid pipeline data and information. The comprehensive plan should include a schedule for developing any necessary rulemakings or guidance, and should provide for:

(a) improved public access to safety-related condition reports, pipeline incident reports, integrity management programs, and operator qualification programs, including access through the internet, annual reports, and other methods as appropriate;

(b) collection of more complete and detailed information on the causes of accidents, thereby facilitating better trends analysis and helping to prevent future accidents. Specifically, you should improve accident reporting forms as soon as possible for both hazardous liquid and natural gas pipelines by expanding causal categories and clarifying instructions so that data submissions are more consistent and accurate; and

(c) assistance to communities to help them more effectively address their pipeline safety concerns, including the potential availability of a limited number of technical assistance grants, subject to the availability of appropriations.

(5) *Supporting research and development of innovative pipeline safety technologies.* In coordination with the Secretary of Energy, I direct you promptly to initiate a process to seek advice and consultation from other Federal and State agencies, academia and research institutions, industry, pipeline safety advocates, environmental organizations, and other stakeholders on the development and implementation of a cooperative program of research and development. Based on this consultation, you should develop and begin implementing a cooperative program to establish research priorities, coordinate and leverage research funding, and maximize efforts for ensuring pipeline integrity. This program should address the need to:

(a) expand internal inspection device capabilities to identify and measure defects and anomalies, including automated internal pipeline inspection sensor systems;

(b) inspect pipelines that cannot accommodate internal inspection devices, including structural integrity measurement;

(c) develop and improve technologies to identify, monitor, and prevent outside force damage, including satellite surveillance;

(d) improve corrosion control and prevention methods;

(e) expand leak detection; and

(f) ensure public safety and environmental protection in other related ways.

The Department of Transportation shall implement this memorandum consistent with its appropriations and to the extent permitted by law.

This memorandum is not intended to create any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies, or instrumentalities, or any other person.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

November 4, 2000

Good morning. In just 3 days now, the American people will perform the most profound act of our democracy. They'll step into the voting booths all across America and, with the power guaranteed them by the Constitution, decide the future direction of our

great Nation. It's an awesome responsibility, especially at this remarkable moment in history, when our ability to build the future of our dreams for our children has never been greater.

Look at what we've already accomplished together. Eight years ago interest rates were high, and 10 million of our people were out of work, deficits and debt were skyrocketing—so were the welfare rolls, crime, teen pregnancy, and income inequality.

But the American people made a choice to follow a new path, guided by old values of opportunity for all, responsibility from all, in a community of all Americans. And today, we're a Nation transformed, with the longest economic expansion in our history, more than 22 million new jobs, the lowest unemployment in 30 years, wages rising at all income levels, the highest homeownership in history.

Just yesterday we learned that unemployment remains at 3.9 percent, and Hispanic unemployment has dropped to 5 percent, the lowest level on record. African-American unemployment has also been cut in half over the last 8 years to its lowest level ever recorded.

This turnaround is about more than economics. We've also got the lowest welfare rolls in 32 years, the lowest crime rates in 26 years. Teen pregnancy and drug abuse are down. Student test scores are up. There are fewer people without health insurance, for the first time in a dozen years.

Now, how do we keep this remarkable progress going? That's the question America must decide on Tuesday, because the best is still out there waiting for us.

Let me give you just one example. We all know that medical decisions should be made by doctors and nurses, not accountants, and that health plans too often do deny vital care and do delay appeals for months on end. There is now a bipartisan majority in Congress ready to pass a real, enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights to deal with problems like these. But the Republican leaders in Congress, under pressure from the HMO lobby, won't bring it up for a vote. That's not how democracy should work.

As President, there are steps I can take to move us forward, and today I am taking an important one. I'm directing the Labor Department to issue final rules within 2 weeks requiring private health plans covering 130 million Americans to provide a fair and unbiased process for patients to appeal when coverage has been denied or delayed.

Under this new rule, for the very first time, health plans would be required to make coverage decisions quickly and to provide consumers with reliable information on their rights and benefits. This new rule is an important step toward providing Americans the health care protections they need and deserve. But the only way to give every American in every health plan the right to see a specialist, to go to the nearest emergency room—not the cheapest—and to hold a health care plan accountable when it causes harm, the only way to do those things is to pass a real, enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights. The American people can make sure that will happen by voting on Tuesday.

Now, you know my choice. But what's important is your choice. A lot is at stake. Your vote will decide whether we're going to use the budget surplus to make America debt-free and keep interest rates low and the economy growing, or go back to an age of deficits. Your vote will decide whether we strengthen Social Security and Medicare and add affordable prescription drug benefits to Medicare.

Your vote will decide whether we invest in education and new classrooms and smaller class sizes, in improving teacher quality and turning around failing schools. Your vote will decide whether we bring prosperity to people and places left behind in our recovery. Your vote will decide whether we stand up to hate crimes and racial profiling, provide equal pay for equal work, and protect a woman's right to choose.

Franklin Roosevelt once said, the ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a President or Senators or Congressmen or Government officials, but the voters of this country. From Lexington and Concord to the beaches of Normandy to the streets of Selma, brave Americans fought and died for the rights we enjoy today. Now, with 8 years of great progress behind us, we know we have the power to build the future of our dreams for our children.

Let's start on Tuesday by going to the polls and exercising our fundamental American freedom.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 12:35 p.m. on November 3 in the Green Room at the Moscone Convention Center for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on November 4. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 3 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast.

Memorandum on Providing Patient Protections Through Final Regulations on Internal Appeals and Information Disclosure

November 4, 2000

Memorandum for the Secretary of Labor

Subject: Providing Patient Protections Through Final Regulations on Internal Appeals and Information Disclosure

In 1997, I appointed you and Secretary of Health and Human Services, Donna E. Shalala, to co-chair the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry (the "Quality Commission"). Through the extraordinary efforts of you and Secretary Shalala in bringing together a broad and diverse group of commission members, the Quality Commission identified numerous shortcomings related to consumer protections in the Nation's frequently evolving health-care delivery system.

Among numerous problems within the health-care delivery system, the Quality Commission specifically cited that tens of millions of Americans with private health insurance do not have access to a fair and timely appeals process. More specifically, under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), 130 million Americans with employer-sponsored health plans lack the protection of a meaningful internal appeals process when plans deny benefits for health care. Health plans making benefit decisions often do not have the medical expertise to make such decisions and appeals of these decisions can take as long as 300 days. As a consequence, countless Americans have been harmed by inappropriate delays and denials of benefits.

The Quality Commission recommended that the benefit appeals and information shortcomings, which hurt American patients and their families, be addressed through a Consumer Bill of Rights. Such improvements were an important element of a broader array of patient protections including a right to see a specialist, a right to receive emergency care, and a right to continue ongoing medical treatment without disruption. Since the release of the Quality Commission's findings, my Administration has been working with a bipartisan group of Members of Congress who are committed to enacting these and other critical protections, such as holding health plans accountable when they take actions that injure patients.

As we have worked to pass a bipartisan, enforceable Patients Bill of Rights, you have held public hearings that confirmed the need for a wide range of protections, with a particular focus on those protections my Administration can extend by executive action: a fair and timely process for internal appeals and meaningful information disclosure to consumers. With my concurrence, you have not implemented these protections because of our mutual belief that it would be far better to establish them in the context of broader protections that would be included should the Patients Bill of Rights be passed by the Congress. Unfortunately, it now appears clear that this Congress will not pass a meaningful and enforceable Patients Bill of Rights this session. With this in mind, I hereby direct as follows:

You shall in the next 2 weeks promulgate final regulations protecting millions of individuals with employer-based health coverage. The regulations shall establish a fair and unbiased process for reviewing medical benefits claims, require timely coverage and appeal decisions, and direct plans to provide meaningful information to patients advising them of their rights to the appeals process.

This memorandum is not intended to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies, or instrumentalities, or any other person.

William J. Clinton

Remarks at a Bronx County Democratic Committee Rally in New York City

November 4, 2000

The President. Thank you. Wow! Are you ready to win this election?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. I want to begin with a set of thank-you's. I thank the Bronx for being so good to me and Al Gore and Hillary and Tipper these last 8 years. I thank Fernando Ferrer, who started with me in late 1991, when only my mother thought I could be elected President. [*Laughter*] I thank Roberto Ramirez for his strong leadership here and his friendship. I thank your Congressman, Jose Serrano, who has been with me for 8 years in Washington, DC.

I want to thank your State comptroller, Carl McCall, for his great leadership and great—[*inaudible*]. I thank the members of the senate, the members of the assembly, the members of the council that are here. I understand Congressman Joe Crowley from Queens is here to sing the national anthem and to make sure I'm not the only Irishman here today. I thank you. [*Laughter*]

Now look, I'm tempted just to give you one applause line after another. This is the best chanting crowd I've heard in a long time. [*Laughter*] But Roberto said, you know, you've just got 4 days, and those 4 days will determine 4 years, maybe 8 years, maybe the next 20 years of our Nation's life. So I want to ask you to indulge me just a couple of minutes while I talk about where we're going. Because for all of you here—and it's a great crowd—the truth is, you've all got a lot of friends who have never been to an event like this. Is that right? [*Applause*] There's our State party chair, Judith Hope. Thank you, Judith, for being here. Thank you.

But you've got a lot of friends who have never been to hear the President speak, right? Never been to a Democratic meeting in the Bronx, never heard Hillary or Vice President Gore or anybody. But they'll vote. Or they might vote if they know clearly what the choice is and what the consequence is for their families and their community and their country.

So I just want to say a few things to you from the heart. You have been very good to me. And America is better off than it was 8 years ago. But what I believe is that this election is every bit as important as the election we had in 1992. And it is very important to realize that we're not just voting for people; we're also voting for a set of ideas about how our country should work.

You know, Fernando Ferrer said this—I want to say it again—I always wanted you to feel, even whether you agreed or disagreed with me, that you had somebody in the White House who was on your side, somebody who understood what your lives were like, and your hopes and your dreams, and was pulling for you and trying to help you make your lives better.

Now, 8 years ago Al Gore and I promised that if you would give us a chance to serve, we would put people first. We tried to create opportunity for every responsible citizen in a community in which every American had a part. This year the American people have to decide to put our country and our children first, at a time of unprecedented prosperity. And the truth is, sometimes it's harder to make a good, clear decision when times are good than when they're tough.

I mean, I know New Yorkers took a chance on me in '92. I know that. I remember when the incumbent President kept referring to me as the Governor of a small southern State. [*Laughter*] Remember when he said that? And I was so naive at the time, I thought it was a compliment. [*Laughter*] The truth is, I still do. [*Laughter*]

But hey, give me a break. It wasn't that much of a chance. The country was in the ditch. We had to change, right? But now things are going well.

So there are three big questions that have to be asked and answered. And what I'm going to ask you to do is to take every spare minute you've got between now and the time the polls close to talk to all the people you know who are not here today and have never come to one of these things but could show up, because that could make the difference.

I just got back from California. I'm going back to Arkansas tomorrow. All over the country, I've never seen an election like this. There are 12 or 13 States where the election

is within 2 points one way or the other. There are congressional races and Senate races that are just unbelievably tight. And I am convinced it's because in these good times people are not absolutely clear about what the consequences are.

So here are the three things I want you to say to your neighbors. Number one, if you remember where we were 8 years ago and you look at where we are today, do you want to keep the prosperity going and give it to people who haven't felt it yet?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. Now, if you do, there's a choice. Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Hillary say, "Okay, you want to keep the prosperity going? First, we've got to keep paying down the debt to keep interest rates low." That's the biggest tax cut we can give anybody. It means lower mortgage rates, lower car payments, lower college loan payments, lower credit card payments; lower business loans costs, which means more businesses, more jobs, higher incomes and a better stock market.

And then take what's left, once you figure out what you've got to do to pay the debt down, and spend it on education and health care and the environment and a tax cut we can afford for our family, for child care, long-term care, college education, and retirement. Now, that's their deal.

The Republicans' sounds good. They say——

Audience members. Boo-o-o!

The President. Hey, wait. Wait. It sounds good. What's their line? Their line is, "Hey, this is your money"—which, of course, it is—"so we'll just give it all to you now. We'll have a tax cut that's 3 times bigger than the Democrats'. We'll privatize Social Security and let young people take the money and run. And we'll spend some money, too."

Now, here are the problems with that. People ask me all the time, "How did you turn the economy around? What great new idea did you bring to Washington?" Do you know what my answer is? "Arithmetic. We brought arithmetic to Washington." [*Laughter*]

Now, look. You know, I heard—Governor Bush said there was an education recession; there's really an education renaissance. And I'm telling you, everybody in the Bronx can figure this out. Here's the deal: The surplus is supposed to be $2 trillion, right? Forget about all those zeroes; that's hard. But it's 2—the surplus, right? [*Laughter*] Okay. Now, their tax cut and the interest associated with it cost $1.6 trillion—1.6. When they privatize Social Security, that costs a trillion dollars. Why? Because if all you young folks take your payroll, everybody like me that's 55 or over that's been guaranteed we will get what we've got coming—and as Al Gore keeps pointing out, you can't spend the same money twice—so if you take a trillion out, we've got to put a trillion in, right? So that's 1.6 plus 1. And then they promise to spend a half a trillion dollars; that's .5.

Now, 1.6 plus 1 plus .5 is 3.1—3.1 is bigger than 2. [*Laughter*] That's the whole deal. Now look, we tried it their way before. Remember? And we ran 12 years of deficits, and we quadrupled the national debt. And when I took office, interest rates were high; inflation was bad; the economy was in the tank. We could go back there just by saying——

Audience members. No!

The President. But you've got to tell people, you can't have it all now. We've got to think about our country and our children and our obligations to our seniors and our obligation to keep this economy going. So tell people that 3.1 is bigger than 2. If you want to keep this prosperity going, you've got one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Hillary.

Now, the second issue. The country is not just stronger economically; it's stronger. The crime rate is down to a 26-year low. The environment is cleaner. We've cleaned up more toxic waste sites in 8 years than they did in 12—3 times as many. The air is cleaner; the water is cleaner; more land preserved forever than any administration since Teddy Roosevelt 100 years ago.

The health care system is getting better. We added 26 years to the life of Medicare. It was supposed to go broke last year. The number of people without health insurance is going down for the first time in a dozen years. The schools are getting better: math scores, reading scores, science scores up; the dropout rate down; the college-going rate at an all-time high, in no small measure because

we passed the biggest expansion of college aid in 50 years.

Now, here's the deal. Do you want to keep building on that progress and doing better?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. There is a difference; there is a choice. Look at Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Hillary. What do they say? They say, keep putting police on the streets; keep taking commonsense measures that keep guns out of the hands of criminals and children. They say, keep cleaning up the environment, and give us a clean energy future and one that's more secure, so you don't have to worry about what home heating oil is going to cost every winter because we'll have more sources of energy and we'll use it better.

They say, keep insuring children until all our kids are insured, and then get their working-class parents health insurance, too. Pass the Patients' Bill of Rights. Pass Medicare prescription drugs for every senior who needs it.

They say, give the States and the school districts money to rebuild crumbling schools and build new ones; put 100,000 qualified teachers in the early grades so these kids will have little classes; have universal preschool and after-school for the kids who need it; and give our families a tax deduction for the cost of college tuition so everybody can afford to go to college. Now, that's what they say.

Now, you've got a choice. What do the Republicans say? This is what they've committed to do. They've committed to abolish the 100,000 police program, break down the 100,000 teacher program. They've committed to relax the clean air standards and to reverse a lot of the land I've protected. They are against the Patients' Bill of Rights. They are against the Medicare prescription drugs for all of our seniors. And their answer to education is block grants and vouchers.

Now, it's not like you don't have a choice. But if you look where we were 8 years and you look where we are now, and you want to build on that progress, you just have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Hillary.

Here's the third big thing. There are just three big questions in this race. The third big thing is, don't you want to keep building one America, one community where we're all going forward together? That's a big issue. This economy is the first recovery in 30 years where everybody got to go along for the ride: African-American unemployment cut in half; Hispanic unemployment cut by more than half; the lowest minority unemployment in the history of the country that we have ever registered; average income up $5,000; child poverty down 30 percent; poverty at a 20-year low; welfare rolls cut in half. We're all going along for the ride.

Now, if you adopt their economic program, we'll keep growing together. And it's more than economics. We didn't end affirmative action, as the Republicans wanted to do; we amended it. We fought for fairness and decency for our immigrants. We fought for an end to prejudice and for civil rights.

Now, you've got a choice. Look at Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Hillary. They're for hate crimes legislation, employment nondiscrimination legislation, stronger enforcement of equal pay for women, fairness for immigrants, and a Supreme Court that will protect civil rights, human rights, and a woman's right to choose.

Now, in every area, in every area from top to bottom, the Republicans have the opposite position. So it's not like there is a choice. You've got to go out and just tell people, "Look, you don't think you're going to go vote? You don't think it makes any difference? If you want to keep the prosperity going, if you want to build on the progress for the last 8 years, if you want to keep building one America so we all go along for the ride, you've got one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Hillary."

Now, let me just say one thing else. Let me say something personally. I know both these people better than about everybody who is going to vote in America. [*Laughter*] And I know something about the Presidency and something about the Congress and something about the Senate. And I would like to say a couple of personal words.

John Kennedy said the Presidency was preeminently a place of decisionmaking. Al Gore has done more good for the American people as Vice President than anybody in history. He has more experience. He has more ability to make those decisions. He is the hardest working person I have ever known.

He has the capacity to keep learning and the curiosity to do it.

He understands the world, which is why, if you talk to the Albanian-Americans in New York City, of whom there is quite a good number in New York, they were probably astonished when his opponent said we shouldn't be in Kosovo. We had to stand up against ethnic cleansing and slaughter there; it was the right thing to do.

And he understands the future. I put him in charge of connecting all our schools to the Internet. When we started, only 3 percent of the classrooms in the country were connected; now 65 percent are. Ninety percent of the poorest schools in America are connected to the Internet.

He is a good man who will make good decisions, who will be a great President. And I can tell you that based on my personal knowledge. If you want somebody you can bank on in a crisis and bank on to make the most of these good times, you need to tell people that. I know this.

And I'll tell you something about Hillary. She knows more—she knows more about children and family, about education and health care, about how to bring economic opportunity to distressed areas than anybody I can imagine who could be running for President. She has worked on this stuff, some of these issues for 20 years, some of these issues for 30 years. She has been part of all the efforts we've made for peace, from Northern Ireland to the Balkans to the Middle East.

She has been part of our outreach to Africa, to Latin America, to South Asia, to places that America used to ignore. But we know that we have Americans from those places, and we know we should be their partners for the future.

And I told her when she decided to do this that New York was a pretty tough sell. [*Laughter*] I said, "You know, just remember the primary I went through in New York in '92." I said, "They'll put you through your paces there." And so you have. [*Laughter*]

And she has been subject to a campaign that has amazed even me, and I've been through a lot—[*laughter*]—for its emphasis on trying to build a wellspring of resentment and division among our State. But hey, you know, that's part of the deal. And she has met every test. She has worked her heart out for 16 months. She has come to every community; she's been there for you.

So here is what I want to tell you. Yes, we're right on the issues. Yes, if you want to keep the prosperity going, build on the social progress, and bring everybody along together, you've got to be for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Hillary, but they're also, by far and away, the best qualified people to keep serving you. So go out and talk to your neighbors and win this election on Tuesday.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:12 p.m. in the Main Dining Room at the Marina Del Ray restaurant. In his remarks, he referred to Fernando Ferrer, president, Bronx Borough; New York State Assemblyman Roberto Ramirez; and Republican Presidential candidate Gov. George W. Bush.

Remarks at a Get Out the Vote Rally in New York City

November 4, 2000

The President. Thank you. Are you ready to win this election?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. Are you ready to make Charles Rangel the first African-American chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, the most powerful committee in the United States Congress?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. I want to say a thank you to everyone here. I thank you, Carl McCall, for your great leadership of New York and for your friendship to me and your support of Hillary. Your future is limitless, and you have done a great job for the people of this State. Thank you.

I want to thank Representatives Jerry Nadler and Carolyn Maloney. They and Charlie have been with me all the way. I want to thank your borough president, Virginia Fields, for being here. Assemblyman Denny Farrell, thank you. All the others behind me, Dennis Rivera, Randi Weingarten, Guillermo Linares, Adam Clayton Powell, Lee Saunders, thank you all for being here. And

give a big hand to Luther Vandross for showing up and being with us.

You know, when Charlie was saying that I was your President, I leaned over to Luther and I said, "You know, Luther, in another life, if I'd have been a little better musician, I'd have been playing jazz at the Cotton Club instead of running for President." [*Laughter*]

More than anything else today, I wanted to come by to have this chance to thank you, to thank the people of Harlem and New York City for being so good to me and to Al Gore these last 8 years. And thank you, thank you for your support for my wife. It means more to me than you will ever know. Thanks for hanging in there.

Now look, the temptation is for us to just shout here for 4 or 5 minutes because we're all on the same side, and I'm preaching to the saved. But the truth is that everybody in this great crowd tonight has friends who have never come to hear a President speak or come to any political rally. Is that right?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. But all those people could vote if they understand what's at stake and if they understand what it means for themselves, their families, this great city, and our Nation. So I want you to just give me a couple of minutes to tell you what I hope you will tell everybody you can find between now and when the polls close. Because this race would not be close for President, it wouldn't be close for Senator, it wouldn't be close anywhere in America, I believe, if people could remember where we were 8 years ago and compare it to where we are today, and then if people understood where we're going and what the differences are.

There are three big questions in this election. Question number one, do you want to keep this prosperity going and give it to people who haven't been part of it yet?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. Well, if you do, there is a big choice: Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Hillary and Charlie Rangel. Here's what they say. They say we've got to keep paying down the debt to keep interest rates low because that means lower home mortgages, lower car loans, lower credit card loans, lower college loans, lower business loans. It means more jobs, higher income, more jobs for working people, and more in the stock market. Everybody wins that way. That's how we made this economy recover.

Then they say, let's take what's left and invest it in our kids in health care and education and the environment and a tax cut we can afford for child care, for long-term care, for college education, for retirement. That's what they say.

Now, on the other side, our Republican friends say, "Hey, this is your money, and we're going to give it to you. We're going to give it all to you right now." And here's what they say. They say, "We're going to give you a huge tax cut"— even though almost everybody in this crowd would be better off under ours—"and then, we're going to privatize Social Security and let the young people have their payroll tax back, and then we're going to spend some money."

Now look, here's the problem. You all clapped for me when I said the economy was better. But people ask me all the time, "What great new idea did you bring to Washington to turn the economy around?" You know what I answer? "Arithmetic. We brought arithmetic back to Washington." [*Laughter*]

Now, we made the numbers add up. You all can remember this. Everybody remember this: Vice President Gore's opponent says we're in an education recession. He's wrong about that; our schools are getting better. I'll say more about that. I can tell you, everybody can understand this.

The surplus is supposed to be $2 trillion. Forget about all the zeroes. That's a lot of money. Two. Okay? They want to give three-quarters of it in a tax cut, $1.6 trillion—1.6. Then they want to give you, if you're young, your payroll tax back, 2 percent of it. But they've got to promise people that are older, like me, that we can still get our Social Security. And as the Vice President keeps pointing out, you can't spend the same dollar on two different people. So that costs another trillion dollars—1. Then they want to spend a little money, too. They want to spend a half a trillion dollars. That's .5. Now, you add it up—1.6 plus 1 plus .5 is 3.1. Three-point-one is bigger than 2. [*Laughter*]

Now look, if you like this economy and you want to keep growing jobs and you want to keep your incomes going up and you want

to keep the interest rates down so you can afford to make a car payment, afford to make a college loan payment, afford credit cards, afford home mortgages, you can't have 3.1 being bigger than 2. This is not rocket science.

And therefore, there is only one choice, and the choice is Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, and Charlie Rangel.

Now, the second big question. This country is not just better off; it's better. Crime is at a 26-year low. The environment is cleaner—cleaner air, cleaner water, 3 times as many toxic waste dumps cleaned up on our watch as the previous 12 years. And we set aside more land forever than anybody since Teddy Roosevelt, 100 years ago.

Now, in addition to that, we've got the number of people without health insurance going down for the first time in a dozen years. And I was talking about the schools. Here are the facts. The reading scores, the math scores, the science scores are up. For the first time in the history of the country, the African-American high school graduation rate is almost equal to the white graduation rate, virtually the same.

We've got record numbers of people going on to college. We've had a 300 percent increase in the number of Latino and African-American kids taking advanced placement tests just in the last 3 years alone. And all these schools that everybody said couldn't be turned around, turns out they can be.

I was in a school in Harlem just about a month ago that 2 years ago had 80 percent of the kids doing reading and math below grade level. Two years later—in just 2 years—74 percent of the kids are doing reading and math at or above grade level. Don't tell me that our kids can't learn or we can't turn our schools around.

So here is the second question: In addition to building on the prosperity, do you want to build on the progress of the last 8 years and do even better?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. If you do, you have a choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, and Charlie Rangel.

What's our program? Put more police on the street and do more to take guns away from criminals and kids in law-abiding ways; cleaner air, safer energy, do more to develop other kinds of energy so people of New York don't have to worry sick every winter about whether they'll have enough home heating oil or whether they can afford to pay for it. Insure all of our kids; pass the Patients' Bill of Rights; pass Medicare drug benefits for all of our seniors; put a hundred thousand teachers in the schools; give New York and the other cities of our country funds to build or repair and modernize schools so these kids have a decent place to go to school; and give every family a tax deduction for the cost of college tuition; have preschool and after-school programs for all the kids who need it—now, that's our program.

Now, look at what the Republican program is. Here's what they say on every issue. They want to get rid of the commitment to 100,000 police; they want to get rid of the commitment to 100,000 teachers. They don't support what we're trying to do to give you school construction funds. They want to relax the clean air standards and reverse a lot of the environmental protections I have put in. They're against the Patients' Bill of Rights; they're against Medicare drugs for all the seniors who need them; and they're not for a type of tax deduction for the cost of college tuition.

So if you want to build on the progress of the last 8 years, you just have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, and Charlie Rangel.

Now, there's one other big choice, and to me, it's the most important of all. Charlie Rangel talked about the affinity that I've had with New York City and the people who live in Harlem. You couldn't have guessed it, I guess, when I started. I remember when my predecessor used to defer to me in a kind of a sneering tone as just the Governor of a small southern State. [*Laughter*] And you know, I was so naive, I thought it was a compliment. [*Laughter*] And I still do. I still do.

But I'll tell you what I thought. I thought to myself, this country works pretty well when everybody counts, everybody has a chance, and we all work together. And we get in a lot of trouble when we start trying to divide ourselves one against the other—old or young, black, white, or Hispanic, straight or gay, people with disabilities and

people without, rich or poor. You know, when we start dividing up the country, we don't do nearly as well as when we work together.

So we've worked hard on bringing people together. When they said I had to end affirmative action, I said, "I don't think so—let's don't end it; let's just fix it and go on." When the other party wanted to be really harsh with illegal immigrants—or with legal immigrants, I said, "I don't think so." This is a country of immigrants. Heck, we're all immigrants from somewhere, except the Native Americans. We all came from somewhere.

And the most important thing I didn't tell you before about this economic recovery is, it's the first one in 30 years that included everybody. We have the lowest African-American and Latino unemployment rate ever recorded, a 20-year low in poverty, the welfare rolls cut in half, child poverty down by 30 percent, average income up by $5,000 after inflation. We take everybody along for the ride—that's why we're Democrats.

So here's the third big question: Do you want to keep building one American community so we all go forward together?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. There's a choice. Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, and Charlie Rangel, here's what they want.

Listen to this. They're for hate crimes legislation, employment nondiscrimination legislation, equal pay for women legislation, fairness for immigrants, an increase in the minimum wage, and a United States Supreme Court that protects civil rights, human rights, and a woman's right to choose.

Now, on every one of these issues, our friends in the other party disagree with us. It is a choice. So I want you to take every opportunity between now and Tuesday to go out across this great country and say, "If you want to keep the prosperity going, if you want to build on the progress of the last 8 years, if you want to keep building one America, you just have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, and Charlie Rangel."

Now—welcome, Senator Schumer. We're glad to see you. Let's give Chuck Schumer a big hand. [*Applause*] Now listen, I want to close on a very personal note. I probably know Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Hillary better than just about any other voter in America. The President has to make decisions for all America. You need to feel that the President is pulling for you, is working for you. And even when he may do something you disagree with, you need to feel that at least he was thinking about you, too.

And John Kennedy—listen—John Kennedy once said that the Presidency was a place of decisionmaking. You're hiring somebody Tuesday to make decisions.

And here's what I want you to know about Al Gore. He's done more good for the American people as Vice President than anybody that ever held that position, including the empowerment zone in Harlem that he and Charlie Rangel have worked on. He works harder than anybody else I know. He keeps learning. He never gets too old or too proud to learn. He's curious about the world. He understands the future. So what I'm trying to tell you is, he's a good man. He'll make good decisions. He'll be a great President of the United States.

What I want you to know about Joe Lieberman is, he's been a friend of mine for 30 years. He understands the ideas behind what we've done in the last 8 years as well as anybody in the United States Congress. And he will be a superb Vice President.

And what I want you to know about Hillary is, I love her. What I want you to know about Hillary is that I've known her for 30 years. When it comes to children and families, health care and education, bringing economic opportunity to people and places left behind, she's worked on all those issues at least 20 years, and most of them for 30 years. She never once in all those years ever asked anybody to do anything for her. She just worked to be a good citizen and a good public servant.

After we came to the White House, she worked on children's health and women's health and education. She worked on all the things I tried to do to make peace in Bosnia, in Kosovo, in Northern Ireland, in the Middle East. She went to Africa, to Latin America, to south Asia, to east Asia, to build bridges to people around the world who have kin folks in this country, but the United States never paid them much attention before. And she put them on our map.

You couldn't have anybody who is better qualified to represent New York State at the dawn of the new millennium. And you will never have anybody who will work harder, care more, or get more done. So I'll say this—I know I'm biased, but I believe what I said to you. There's no question who would be the better President. There's no question who would be the better Senator. And I want you to go out here for 4 days and just do it one more time and tell people, "Here's what this election is about: If you want to keep the prosperity going, if you want to keep the progress going, if you want to keep building one America, you just have one choice—Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, and Charlie Rangel."

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:38 p.m. at the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., State Office Building in Harlem. In his remarks, he referred to H. Carl McCall, New York State comptroller; C. Virginia Fields, president, Manhattan Borough; State Assembly member Herman D. (Denny) Farrell; Dennis Rivera, cochair, Rainbow/PUSH Coalition; Randi Weingarten, president, United Federation of Teachers; Guillermo Linares, New York City councilmember, Manhattan Borough; Adam Clayton Powell III, vice president, technology and programs, Freedom Forum; Lee Saunders, special assistant for the president, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL–CIO; and musician Luther Vandross. Representative Rangel is a candidate for reelection in New York's 15th Congressional District.

Message on Returning Without Approval to the House of Representatives the "Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001"

November 4, 2000

To the House of Representatives:

Today, I am disapproving H.R. 4392, the "Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001," because of one badly flawed provision that would have made a felony of unauthorized disclosures of classified information. Although well intentioned, that provision is overbroad and may unnecessarily chill legitimate activities that are at the heart of a democracy.

I agree that unauthorized disclosures can be extraordinarily harmful to United States national security interests and that far too many such disclosures occur. I have been particularly concerned about their potential effects on the sometimes irreplaceable intelligence sources and methods on which we rely to acquire accurate and timely information I need in order to make the most appropriate decisions on matters of national security. Unauthorized disclosures damage our intelligence relationships abroad, compromise intelligence gathering, jeopardize lives, and increase the threat of terrorism. As Justice Stewart stated in the Pentagon Papers case, "it is elementary that the successful conduct of international diplomacy and the maintenance of an effective national defense require both confidentiality and secrecy. Other nations can hardly deal with this Nation in an atmosphere of mutual trust unless they can be assured that their confidences will be kept . . . and the development of considered and intelligent international policies would be impossible if those charged with their formulation could not communicate with each other freely." Those who disclose classified information inappropriately thus commit a gross breach of the public trust and may recklessly put our national security at risk. To the extent that existing sanctions have proven insufficient to address and deter unauthorized disclosures, they should be strengthened. What is in dispute is not the gravity of the problem, but the best way to respond to it.

In addressing this issue, we must never forget that the free flow of information is essential to a democratic society. Justice Stewart also wrote in the Pentagon Papers case that "the only effective restraint upon executive policy in the areas of national defense and international affairs may lie in an enlightened citizenry—in an informed and critical public opinion which alone can here protect the values of democratic government."

Justice Brandeis reminded us that "those who won our independence believed . . . that public discussion is a political duty; and that this should be a fundamental principle of the American government." His words caution that we must always tread carefully when considering measures that may limit public

discussion—even when those measures are intended to achieve laudable, indeed necessary, goals.

As President, therefore, it is my obligation to protect not only our Government's vital information from improper disclosure, but also to protect the rights of citizens to receive the information necessary for democracy to work. Furthering these two goals requires a careful balancing, which must be assessed in light of our system of classifying information over a range of categories. This legislation does not achieve the proper balance. For example, there is a serious risk that this legislation would tend to have a chilling effect on those who engage in legitimate activities. A desire to avoid the risk that their good faith choice of words—their exercise of judgment—could become the subject of a criminal referral for prosecution might discourage Government officials from engaging even in appropriate public discussion, press briefings, or other legitimate official activities. Similarly, the legislation may unduly restrain the ability of former Government officials to teach, write, or engage in any activity aimed at building public understanding of complex issues.

Incurring such risks is unnecessary and inappropriate in a society built on freedom of expression and the consent of the governed and is particularly inadvisable in a context in which the range of classified materials is so extensive. In such circumstances, this criminal provision would, in my view, create an undue chilling effect.

The problem is compounded because this provision was passed without benefit of public hearings—a particular concern given that it is the public that this law seeks ultimately to protect. The Administration shares the process burden since its deliberations lacked the thoroughness this provision warranted, which in turn led to a failure to apprise the Congress of the concerns I am expressing today.

I deeply appreciate the sincere efforts of Members of Congress to address the problem of unauthorized disclosures and I fully share their commitment. When the Congress returns, I encourage it to send me this bill with this provision deleted and I encourage the Congress as soon as possible to pursue a more narrowly drawn provision tested in public hearings so that those they represent can also be heard on this important issue.

Since the adjournment of the Congress has prevented my return of H.R. 4392 within the meaning of Article I, section 7, clause 2 of the Constitution, my withholding of approval from the bill precludes its becoming law. The Pocket Veto Case, 279 U.S. 655 (1929). In addition to withholding my signature and thereby invoking my constitutional power to "pocket veto" bills during an adjournment of the Congress, to avoid litigation, I am also sending H.R. 4392 to the House of Representatives with my objections, to leave no possible doubt that I have vetoed the measure.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
November 4, 2000.

Remarks at a Get Out the Vote Rally in New York City

November 4, 2000

The President. Thank you. Are you ready to win this election?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. Thank you for coming out. Thank you for your warm welcome. I want to thank the president and Mrs. Steinberg and Provost Gale Stevens for welcoming me here to LIU, along with your student body president, who is also there. I want to thank my good friend Carl McCall for making these stops with me today and for all the support he has given to Hillary and the superb job he has done for the people of New York.

And I want to thank Judith Hope for taking over the Democratic Party when we were not in very good shape and working her heart out and for showing such leadership.

And my Brooklyn buddies over here—in early 1992, when only my mother thought I could be elected President—[*laughter*]—Clarence Norman and Major Owens were there for me, and I will never, ever, ever forget it. Thank you, and God bless you.

You know, this has been a great day for me to go around and campaign for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and for Hillary, to go to the Bronx, which has also been very good

to me, to go down to Harlem with Charlie Rangel, who will be the next chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee if we win this election. But I am honored to finish in Brooklyn because, as you heard Major and Clarence say, New York City has been wonderful to me and to Al Gore these last 8 years. Shoot, we've even gotten a pretty good vote out on Staten Island. Queens has been great; the Bronx has been great; Manhattan has been fabulous; but Brooklyn always came in first and gave us the biggest vote, and I thank you for that.

But I also am glad to be here at LIU and to have so many—soccer, softball, volleyball—I'm glad to be here because, fundamentally, this is a race about the future. It's a race about 21st century America, and the young people in this audience have more at stake than anyone else.

So I know you're all committed or you wouldn't be here. And it's easy for me to just sort of give you one applause line after another. But I want to ask you as a personal favor to just let me talk to you for a few minutes in a conversation. Why? Because the election is still a few days away, and because there are thousands upon thousands of people in New York and many of you have friends in other States who haven't even decided whether to vote yet, much less for whom to vote. All that talk about the base, that's a fancy way of saying if the people that are for our side actually show up and vote, we will win. If a higher percentage of the people that are for their side show up and vote, then we could lose, even if most people are really for us.

And so what I want to ask you to do when you leave here tonight is to take some time tomorrow and the next day and all the way through election day to tell people why they ought to vote—especially the young people—what the stakes are, what the choice is, and what the consequences are. I don't have any doubt in the world that if people really understand what this election is about and what the honest differences are, that we will prevail.

So here's what I'd like for you to say. First of all, remember what it was like 8 years ago. It's hard for a lot of younger voters to remember this. The economy was in the dumps; the society was divided; the political system was completely unresponsive. Al Gore and I came to the American people and we asked you to give us a chance to put the American people first, to provide opportunity for every responsible citizen in a community of all the American people—and I mean all, never mind your race, your ethnic background, whether you're an immigrant or native-born; never mind whether you're old or young, rich or poor, straight or gay, disabled or physically unchallenged. If you work hard and you obey the law, you're part of our America and part of our American family, and we want you to go forward with us.

Congressman Greg Meeks—give him a big hand there, come on up—from Queens. [*Applause*] You were just with Hillary? Good for you. [*Laughter*]

Now look, so 8 years ago we did that. We came in, you gave us a chance. And it's a different country now. It's a totally different country. We have the longest economic expansion in history, 22 million new jobs. So here's the first question, do you want to keep building on this prosperity and extend it to the people who haven't felt it yet? Do you want to keep it going?

Audience members. Yes!

The President. That's the first question you ought to ask every voter. Somebody tells you, "Oh, it doesn't make any difference whether I vote or not." Think about where we were 8 years ago and look at where we are now economically. And if you want to build on it and extend this prosperity to the people that have been left behind, then you've got a choice: Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Hillary, Major and Greg. You know what our position is? How do you keep it going? First, keep paying the debt down to keep interest rates down. Why is that important to you? Because if you keep interest rates down, it means that you pay lower home mortgage payments, lower car payments, lower college loan payments, lower credit card payments, lower business loan payments. It means more jobs, higher income, a bigger stock market, a growing economy. They quadrupled the debt, and we're paying it down.

Then we say, let's take the money that's left and invest it in the education and health

care of our people and our environment, in building our community, and in a tax cut we can afford—for child care, long-term care, college tuition costs, retirement.

Now, they say that we're not giving you a big enough tax cut, and they're promising you the Moon right up front. They offer a tax cut 3 times as big as ours—although, most of you would actually get more money under ours—and then they say, in addition to that, "For all you young people, we're going to privatize Social Security; we're going to let you take 2 percent of your payroll tax and invest it in the stock market, and you'll make more money." And then they say to people my age and older, "But don't worry; we're going to give you all your benefits. They're going to take the money out, and we're still going to pay you your benefit." And then they say, "Here's some money we'd like to spend."

Now, look, here's the first big difference—this is a huge deal for you, especially you young people. Difference number one: People ask me all the time, "What great new idea did you bring to economic policymaking in Washington to help turn this economy around?" And I always have a one-word answer, "arithmetic." [*Laughter*] Not algebra, not trigonometry, not calculus—arithmetic. Anybody in elementary school can do this math. Follow this:

They project—the Government does, the Republicans do—a surplus of about $2 trillion over the next decade. And that's a lot of money, but forget the zeros, just say 2. Now, they acknowledge that their tax cut plus the interest cost associated with it is three-quarters of that—1.6. And then they want to privatize Social Security. And as the Vice President keeps pointing out, you can't give the same trillion dollars twice.

So if you young folks take your trillion out, it's not going to be there to pay my Social Security check, right? So that money has got to come from somewhere. That costs a trillion dollars—1. And then they want to spend a little money, too, a half a trillion dollars. That's .5. Now, there's a $2 trillion surplus. They propose to spend 1.6 plus 1 plus .5, or 3.1—3.1 is bigger than 2. [*Laughter*]

That's it. This is not rocket science. That's it. If you do that, you're back in debt; you've got higher interest rates. You pay more for college loans, home mortgages, car payments, credit card payments. Businesses pay more to borrow money. Therefore, they hire fewer people, and the stock market doesn't grow as much, and nobody makes as much money, and the economy doesn't grow like it would. This is a huge difference.

So we say—our leaders, Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, Greg, and Major, they say, "Look, we'd like to give you more, but it's not fair; you can't do it all at once. You just can't take the money and run. We've got to keep this economy going." So question number one, if you want to keep the prosperity going, you just have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, Major, and Greg.

Okay. Second question. This is not just a country that's better off; this is a better country—crime at a 26-year low; the number of people without health insurance going down for the first time in 12 years; 2.5 million more kids with health insurance; the environment getting cleaner, we've tripled the number of toxic waste sites we've cleaned up over what they did in 12 years; we have cleaner air, cleaner water, safer drinking water, and we set aside more land for internal protection than any administration since Theodore Roosevelt almost 100 ago.

The schools are getting better. On the national test scores, the math scores are up; the reading scores are up; the science scores are up; the dropout rate is down. African-American high school graduation rate was almost exactly equal to white high school graduation rate last year for the first time in history. The college-going rate is at an all-time high, thanks in part to the biggest increase in college aid in 50 years under this administration.

Now, second question, do you want to build on this progress and not reverse it? Don't you want to do better? Wouldn't you like it if our streets were safer, our environment was cleaner, we had more people with health insurance, and we had even more educational opportunities and more of our schools worked well? If you do, you've got a choice. Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, and our Democrats in the House, do you know what they want? They want, number one, on crime, to keep putting more police

on the street, keep taking steps to get guns out of the hands of criminals and kids.

Number two, they want a clean energy future, so that you don't have to worry sick in New York every winter about whether you'll have enough home heating oil or whether, if you've got it, you can afford it.

Number three, they want to continue to insure more kids, until all kids are insured, then their working parents are insured. We pass a Patients' Bill of Rights and a Medicare prescription drug program for all the seniors in this country who need that.

Number four, they want to keep working on the schools. You heard Major talking about that. If we win a majority in the House, he'll be the head of the Education Subcommittee, and I won't have to worry about education anymore. What do we want to do with schools? Universal preschool and after-school for all the kids who need it; smaller classes in the early grades, with 100,000 new teachers; school construction funds to build schools and repair schools, so kids are not going to substandard schools and they have the facilities they need to get a good education; funds to help turn around failing schools and a tax deduction for the cost of college tuition—that's our program.

Now, you've got a choice. You have a choice. What does the other side want? Here's what they promise to do. On crime, they promise to repeal our program to put 100,000 police on the street. It works—never mind that, they're still going to repeal it. They say the Federal Government shouldn't be doing it, even if our streets are safer.

In education, they promise to repeal our commitment to putting 100,000 teachers in the classroom. They don't support what we want to do on school construction or universal preschool or after-school or tax deductibility for college tuition. On the environment, they think the only answer is to drill more oil. They don't believe in what we're trying to do with alternative energy and energy conservation. And in health care, they do not support the Patients' Bill of Rights or the Medicare drug program for all of our seniors or the plans we have to expand coverage to children and their parents. You couldn't have a bigger choice.

Now, you can either build on the progress of the last 8 years or reverse a lot of it. But if you want to build on it, you've only got one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, Major, and Greg.

Here's the third question. We're going to do this at the end one more time, because I want you to do this to people. You look at this crowd. The people in this room could reach another hundred thousand voters between now and election day with no sweat. Most of the people you know have never come to a rally like this. Isn't that right? Most of you have friends who have never come to a rally like this.

This is Saturday night. Most of the kids here probably have friends who wonder what you're doing at a rally like this on Saturday night. Is that right? [*Laughter*] Okay, so this is your job. When you leave here, you've got to be able to do this.

The third point is, maybe the most important of all, is that in the last 8 years, we have not only made economic and social progress; we have grown together as one America. The thing that's most important about this economic expansion is that it helped everybody. We have the lowest Latino and African-American unemployment ever recorded; average incomes are up over $5,000 after inflation; senior poverty is down below 10 percent for the first time ever; child poverty down 30 percent; overall poverty at a 20-year low; welfare rolls at a 32-year low, cut in half.

We're going forward together. It wasn't just that rich people made more money, middle class people and lower income working people did, too. And we need to keep going forward together. And it wasn't just about money.

When the Republicans urged us to end affirmative action, we said, don't end it, mend it, and we kept it. We continue to enforce the civil rights laws and involve people in the work of the Government, all kinds of people. And to try to break down barriers of discrimination.

Now, if you want to keep building one America, you've got a huge choice here. And I'll just give you a few of the issues.

Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, and our crowd, here's what they're for—just listen to this: hate crimes legislation, employment

nondiscrimination legislation, legislation to guarantee equal pay for women in the work force, legislation to guarantee fair treatment for legal immigrants, no matter where they're from, and Supreme Court and Federal court appointments that will protect civil rights, human rights, and a woman's right to choose.

Now, in every one of these issues—in every single one of these issues—the leaders of the other party have a different position—every one of them. No on hate crimes, no unemployment nondiscrimination, no on the equal pay law for women, no on the court appointments to protect a woman's right to choose—every one of them a different position.

So if somebody tells you that, why should they vote, there's no real difference, you have to say, oh, no. If you want to keep the prosperity going and build on it, if you want to keep the social progress going and build on it, if you want to keep building one America, you only have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, Major, and Greg.

Now, let me ask you this: Don't you believe if you told everybody you knew of voting age just what I told you and what the three big issues were in the election, that the overwhelming majority of them would vote for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Hillary? Don't you believe that? [*Applause*] So I want you to think about this.

A lot of you have friends in neighboring States that are close in the Presidential election. A lot of you have friends here in New York who are trying to decide whether they should vote. A lot of you have friends who say, "Oh, I just saw a couple of TV ads; it's all just a mess to me; I don't know what the deal is here." You've got to tell them what the deal is. This is a big thing. And young people have the biggest stake of all in this election.

Even when it comes to preserving Social Security, you've got a big stake. Why? Because when people my age retire, the baby boomers, there will only be two people working for every one person drawing Social Security. The reason we want to preserve Social Security is not just for us; it's so our retirement does not bankrupt our kids and their ability to raise our grandkids. Even that is a young person's issue.

Now I just want to say something real personal in closing. I believe I know Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Hillary better than virtually any other voter in the country. [*Laughter*] As a matter of fact, I'm quite confident that I'm the person who knows the three of them put together the best of anybody who will vote. And I've had some passing experience with the White House in the last 8 years. [*Laughter*]

So I want to tell you a couple things that are personal about this. John Kennedy said the Presidency is a place of decisionmaking. Vice President Gore has more experience than his opponent. Vice President Gore, whether it was in hooking up our schools to the Internet or trying to develop new high-mileage vehicles or reducing the size of the Federal Government and putting more services on computer or helping to bring economic opportunities to poor areas or helping us to stand up for freedom around the world, he has done more good in the position of Vice President than anybody that ever held the job. Second, he has more knowledge. Third, he works harder than just about anybody I've ever known, and it matters how hard you work. Fourth, he's a good student; he keeps on learning, and it's a job that is constantly a learning experience. Even today I learned something new about my job—even today. And finally, he makes good decisions.

So what I want you to think about in your mind is, you know what the three big issues are. You also have a candidate who's a good man, who makes good decisions, who will be a great President. And I want you to tell that to people you know.

This whole set of ideas I just went over with you grew out of a political movement I was part of, that Joe Lieberman was a part of. He understands the basis, the intellectual basis, of the policies that we implemented that I just discussed, as well or better than anybody else in the entire United States Congress. He's a perfect partner for Al Gore.

Let me say one other thing. I think we're going to win the House. I think we've got a good chance to win the Senate. But you remember what Major Owens said, too, when you talk to people. If for some reason we didn't, there needs to be somebody there

to stop the extremism of the Republican leaders in Congress and Al Gore will do that.

Now, let me tell you something about Hillary. I've known her for 30 years, next spring. We just celebrated our silver wedding anniversary. I know you want to discount what I say, but I'm telling you this also as somebody who has known hundreds, maybe even thousands of people in public life, elected officials. Maybe tens of thousands, I don't know. I've known a bunch of people in politics. [*Laughter*]

There is nobody I know who knows more about children and family, health care, and education and bringing economic opportunity to distressed places—knows more about all five of those subjects—than her. She's worked on some of those issues for 20 years. She's worked on some of those issues for 30 years.

And all those 30 years, she never asked anybody to do anything for her, never. She was always working on someone else's commission, starting some new organization, volunteering for some new civic endeavor to create some new effort, or lobbying for some bill or campaigning for me or some other politician. It wasn't until some of the people in the New York House delegation asked her to start looking at running for the Senate and traveling around the State. And she had never before asked anybody to do anything for her. But all this time, she's been working on these things.

And I can tell you something based on my knowledge of all the people I've known in public life. There is nobody that has a better combination of brains and heart and determination and knowledge and the ability to get things done, even with people who don't agree with her. You will be so proud of her.

So are you going to do what I asked you to do? [*Applause*] Are you going to go tell people what's at stake? [*Applause*] Are you going to ask them if they want to keep the prosperity going? [*Applause*] Are you going to ask them if they want to build on the progress of the last 8 years? [*Applause*] Are you going to ask them if they want to keep building one America? [*Applause*] And what's the answer? Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, Hillary, Major, and Greg.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:53 p.m. in the gymnasium at Long Island University in Brooklyn. In his remarks, he referred to David J. Steinberg, president, Gale Stevens Haynes, provost, and Simone Knight, student body president, Long Island University; Mr. Steinberg's wife, Joan; H. Carl McCall, New York State comptroller; Judith Hope, chair, New York State Democratic Party; New York State Assembly member Clarence Norman, Jr., 43d District, Kings County chair. Representative Major R. Owens is a candidate for reelection in New York's 11th Congressional District; Gregory W. Meeks is a candidate for reelection in New York's Sixth Congressional District.

Remarks at an Arkansas Civic Leaders Luncheon in Little Rock, Arkansas

November 5, 2000

Thank you very much. I'm really glad to see you. [*Laughter*] I bring you greetings from Hillary and our all-grown-up daughter, who are otherwise occupied in New York today. And she's doing very well, and I'm proud of her. I think she's going to win on Tuesday.

I want to talk today about today and tomorrow. Nostalgia will have to wait. I do want to thank people that are up here on this stage for their friendship. I thank Mark Pryor for taking on this campaign and for getting involved in public life in our State, carrying on his great family tradition while his daddy becomes an ivy league egghead. [*Laughter*] You notice, I was the only one who was dumb enough to do that before I ran for office; David waited until afterward.

I want to thank Vic Snyder, who has been a great friend and supporter of mine in Congress and a great Representative for this district. It's been my honor to vote for him every time he's been on the ballot.

I want to thank James Lee Witt and Rodney Slater. They have represented our State so well in the Cabinet. They have represented our country. They have done superb jobs, and I'm very proud of them.

We have a few other Arkansans in the crowd. I can't see everybody because the lights are real bright. But I saw Ken Smith and Jim Bob Baker out there. They've also done very well by our administration and

there may be others. But I'm really—and Janis Kearney, I think, is here, who—she keeps up with what I do every day, and some day when I want to write my memoirs, I'll be able to read what Janis said I did and so when you read the book, it may be what she said instead of me because I can't remember anything anymore. [*Laughter*]

But I want to thank all the people who are here. I want to thank Carroll Willis who has been down here working and who has been at the Democratic Party all these years and has done such a great job. And I want to thank my buddy Dale Bumpers. I finally got over being mad at him for leaving the Senate. [*Laughter*] You know, Dale and Dave and I couldn't quite calibrate our respective schedules and biological clocks so we could go out together. But I sort of envision a remake of the "Three Amigos" movie, where we just get on horses and ride out of Washington and thank hallelujah we survived it all.

Look, I want to talk about this election a little bit. Arkansas is close. Polls say we're a couple points behind. The people in this room could carry this State for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman, if you want to bad enough. And I just want to say a few things. I appreciate what's been said, but our public life is always about tomorrow and, yet, yesterday is an indicator of tomorrow.

As near as I can see, the case that the other guys are making is, "Well, the economy is better; crime is down; welfare is down; the environment is better; education is improving; more people than ever are going on to college; we've got a decline in the number of people without health insurance for the first time in 12 years. So what we need to do is bag all those policies and do something entirely different. And among other things, now that we've got this surplus, I'm going to give it all back to you right now, and then some." Now, as nearly as I can see, that's the campaign. And I don't think people understand that. Because, as Vic would say, they run these ads on prescription drugs, and I'll say more about that and the Patients' Bill of Rights and all that. Why is that? Because they know that they've got a lot at stake in this election.

They know there are big differences, and they know that the voters understand what the differences are and what the consequences are that Al Gore and Joe Lieberman will be elected and the Democrats will win the House and the Senate. Therefore, there has to be a lot of muddying of the water. And it's a lot easier to muddy things up than it is to clarify them.

Plus which, I think a lot of people kind of have forgotten what it was like 8 years ago. And sometimes it's harder to make a good decision in good times than it is in bad times. There are younger voters that will be voting in this Presidential election that don't even remember what it was like 8 years ago; even if they tried to think about it, they would have no memory of it.

So here's what I would like you to say to people for the next 3 days. The people in this room can carry this State for Al Gore if you want to bad enough. And this State could literally determine the outcome of the election. There are about 15 to 20 States that are literally within 3 points one way or the other. And no one knows what's going to happen, but what will happen is, the people that want it bad enough will win. That's what's going to happen.

Now, you know they want it bad enough because they don't like what we've done on issues where the majority of the people agree with us, and you know that they'll show up because they have been out a long time. So you've just got to decide whether you think this is worth fighting for; because if you do, we'll win.

Here is what I would like you to say to people. First of all, the Republicans believe that former President Reagan is the source of all wisdom. He said you should decide whether to continue the party in office based on whether you're better off today than you were 8 years ago. So, by the Reagan test, Al Gore wins.

But the real issue is, do you want to continue this prosperity and extend it to people and places that have been left behind? Now look, I want—I've never heard this as clearly explained as I think it needs to be. And the previous speakers talked about it a little bit, but I want you to think about it.

People ask me all the time, they come up to me, and every time I go someplace in the country, they say, "Oh, Mr. President, you've had such a nice, good 8 years, and you've had such a good economy; what great, new idea that you and Bob Rubin and Lloyd Bentsen bring to economic policy in Washington?" And I always answer with one word, "arithmetic." [*Laughter*] You know, when I'd normally tell them I was from Arkansas and I had been Governor 12 years, and I always found arithmetic was good—I didn't need algebra, calculus, trigonometry. Arithmetic. We made the numbers add up.

And what getting rid of the deficit did was to drive interest rates down, make it cheaper for people to borrow in the private sector. It ballooned the stock market, increased investment in business. It created over 22 million new jobs. And we did it in a way—this is the most important thing to me—it was good for everybody. Poverty went down; average income went above $40,000 for the first time in the history of the country. We all went forward together. But it starts with arithmetic.

Now, you can argue that Governor Bush and Al Gore have different tax plans and which one is better. Most people in Arkansas would be better off under the Gore plan in the short run, because it's more tilted toward middle class working people. But forget about that. Let's just look at the cost. And you can certainly argue about the Social Security plan, about whether it's good or bad to privatize Social Security. Let's forget about that for just a minute.

The projected surplus is $2 trillion. That sounds like a lot of money—just say 2. I don't think it will be that big, by the way, because this Congress put a lot of pork-barrel spending in to get themselves reelected, which I don't think they'll be successful in doing, and I certainly hope not. But give the Republicans their number, 2. Now, the Republican tax cut costs 1.3, but because you're not paying down the debt as much, it has extra interest costs. That's another 300 billion. So it's really 1.6. Now, they have admitted that their privatization of Social Security plan costs a trillion dollars. And as the Vice President said, you can't spend the same money twice; you can't give the same money to young people to put in the stock market and then give it to those of us who are over 50, when our Social Security checks are due. So that's another trillion that has to come out of the surplus. So that's 1.6 and 1.

And then they promise to spend some money, about half a trillion dollars. That's .5. Here's the big issue in this election, economically: 1.6 plus 1 plus .5 is 3.1, and 3.1 is bigger than 2. Now, I'm telling you, this is not rocket science.

You get by all the romance and all the rhetoric, somebody up there has got to have arithmetic. We brought arithmetic back to Washington. The Republicans forgot about arithmetic for 12 years. They quadrupled the debt, and they want to go right back to the same economic policy they had before. And it's higher interest rates, which means trouble for all of you.

Do you know, the average—the first people in America would pay on $100,000 mortgage today are saving $2,000 every single year in lower interest rates because we got rid of the deficit. It is estimated that Al Gore's plan will keep interest rates one percent lower for a decade. Why? Because he pays off the debt.

Now, you know what that's worth? Three hundred and ninety billion dollars in lower home mortgages, $30 billion in lower car payments, $15 billion in lower college loan payments, lower credit card payments; lower business loans, which means more businesses, more jobs, higher income and a bigger stock market. That's how the rich get richer, and the rest of us do, too. [*Laughter*] Arithmetic.

Now, I'm telling you, you cannot go back to deficits without having higher interest rates and hurting ordinary people and weakening the overall economy. So you've just got to tell people this. You can't—you know, things are going along so well, they say, it's your money—which of course it is, the whole deal is yours. That's what the election is about.

So things are going along so well, they say, let's just take it all now. And here is the Vice President, that they criticize for telling people what they want to hear, and he said "Uh-uh, we're going to first pay down the debt, then we're going to take what's left, and we're going to invest in education, health

care, and the environment and give the American people a tax cut we can afford, for child care, long-term care, the cost of college tuition, and retirement savings. That's what we're going to do."

But why are intelligent and very wealthy people like Bob Rubin still for Al Gore? Because they know they're better off with lower interest rates and working people having jobs and consuming and keeping this economy going.

Now, you can explain that to people. Anybody can understand that. You can't have a tax cut this big, a Social Security privatization program this big, and promise to spend this kind of money when there is not that much money. And the Gore/Lieberman plan is to pay down the debt, invest in the education of our children, in health care, in the environment, in national security, the things we have to have, and give the people a tax cut we can afford. We'll all be better off.

And you've just got to ask people, do you remember where we were 8 years ago; do you want to build on this prosperity and extend it to others, or do you want to reverse it and go back to the previous economic program? It's not like we don't have a test here. We tried it our way for 8 years; before that, we tried it their way for 12 years. Our way works better. Vote for Gore. You can say that, and people will understand what you're saying.

The second thing I want to say is, this country is not just better off. This is a better, stronger, more united country. And I think it's worth pointing out that there were specific, serious policies of this administration that contributed to that.

The crime rate is at a 26-year low. Why? Because we've got 100,000 police on the street; we're putting another 50,000 on the street. The Brady bill kept guns out of a half million felons and stalkers, and no matter what our friends at the NRA say, there hasn't been a single hunter miss a day in the deer woods or a single sports shooter miss an event in Arkansas, not one, not one single day. It's just all a bunch of hogwash. But people are safer.

The environment: The air is cleaner, the water is cleaner, 43 million more Americans breathing clean air. We have safer drinking water, safer food, 90 percent of our kids immunized for the first time. And we've set aside more land for permanent preservation than any administration since Theodore Roosevelt almost 100 years ago. And the economy got better, not worse.

Now, health care: I remember their guy was saying all the time, you know, "You had 8 years; you didn't do anything on health care." And I thought, there you go again. [*Laughter*]

When we took office, Al and I, Medicare was supposed to go broke last year. Broke, out of money, kaput, busted. It's now good for 25 more years. And we've added preventive care for prostate cancer and for breast cancer. We have revolutionized care for diabetes. The American Diabetes Association said what we did was the most important thing since the development of insulin.

We've got the number of people without health insurance going down for the first time in 12 years, because of the Children's Health Insurance Program we insisted be in the Balanced Budget Act.

Now, there's a difference here, and I'll come to that. What does Gore say? Pass a real Patients' Bill of Rights; pass a Medicare prescription drug program that all our seniors can afford to buy into. Give all our kids health insurance and insure as many of the working parents as we can afford to insure.

Education: I notice that the Republicans have quit saying there is an education recession. So every now and then—usually the facts have no impact on them. I almost admire that about them. [*Laughter*] Never mind the facts, they know what their line is, and they just say it. But they have kind of quit saying that.

But look at the facts here. The dropout rate is down; the high school graduation is up; the college-going rate is at an all-time high, thanks in part to the biggest expansion in college aid in 50 years. But this is important: The math, the reading, and the science scores are up; there has been a 300 percent increase in the last 3 years in African-American and Hispanic kids taking advanced placement tests.

We have 800,000 kids now in after-school programs that weren't there before we took office. We've got, thanks to the leadership

of our Education Secretary, Dick Riley, all but one State have academic standards now against which they measure their kids and systems for identifying failing schools and turn them around. So the schools are getting better.

Yes, the work is done by the schools, and yes, most of the money comes from the States. But the way we have spent this money has made a significant contribution to the continuing improvement of education in America.

So what's their answer to that? Change it all. It's not like you don't have a choice here. People need to know what the choice is. On crime they have committed to repeal the 100,000 police program. They say never mind the fact we've got the lowest crime rate in 26 years, the Federal Government has got no business doing that. Al Gore, he wants to put 50,000 more police on the street and keep going until America is the safest big country in the world.

On the environment, Al Gore wants to build on what we've done, and he'll do even better because the economy is stronger. They want to repeal my order setting aside 40 million roadless acres in the national forests and to weaken the clean air standards. If you want to do that, you should vote for them, if you really believe that I've hurt the economy so bad. But if I was trying to hurt the economy with the environmental policies I have, I've done a poor job of it. [*Laughter*] I made a pure mess of that if I was trying to mess the economy up with my environmental policy.

On health care, they're against the Patients' Bill of Rights, against the Medicare drug program, against our program to expand coverage. Oh, yes, they run these ads, and they say, "We're for a Patients' Bill of Rights, too." What they don't say, because they can't afford to say: "We're for as much of a Patients' Bill of Rights as the HMO lobby in Washington will let us be for"—which means it's a bill of suggestions, because if you get hurt, you can't sue.

On the Medicare drugs, they say, "We're for Medicare drugs, too." What they don't say is, "We're for as broad a plan as the big drug companies will let us be for"—so they don't lose their monopoly position. And who cares if they leave half the seniors out who needs these drugs.

You need to tell people this. They have a choice. But if they want every senior in this country to have access to medicine, if they want a real Patients' Bill of Rights, if they want to keep improving the environment as we grow the economy, if they believe that we ought to be making, for example, fuel out of farm products and biomass—let me just tell you, the reason ethanol never caught on, even though we had a plant in Arkansas way back in 1980, is that it takes 7 gallons of gasoline to make 8 gallons of ethanol. But the Department of Agriculture is funding research that I believe will bear fruit in the next couple of years. And when it happens they will crack the chemical mystery, and it will be just like when you turn crude oil into gasoline. Then you'll be able to make 8 gallons of ethanol, and you won't even have to use corn—you can use rice hulls; you can use hay; you can use any kind of biomass fuel with one gallon of gasoline. And when that happens, we'll all be going around getting 500 miles a gallon. Now, Al Gore will fund that and push that, and they won't. You can choose.

But you talk about something that could revolutionize life for America's farmers, change everything in rural America and in rural Arkansas, that's it. So that's what Gore wants to do. They think we can drill our way out of the energy problem we've got.

And in education, they want to repeal our commitment to put 100,000 teachers in the classroom. They say the Federal Government shouldn't be doing that. All I know is that when we passed class size standards in Arkansas in the early grades, the achievement of our children went up, and it is happening all over America. We have the biggest number of kids in the history of our country, and we need more teachers in those schools.

So you've got a choice. If you want to take down the 100,000 police and take down the 100,000 teachers and not have a real Patients' Bill of Rights and not have a Medicare prescription drug program that helps all of our people and not have a tax deduction for the cost of college tuition and weaken the environmental standards, you've got a choice. But if you kind of like having safer streets and

a cleaner environment and knowing your National Government is supporting school reforms that work and helping more people get access to health care while we grow the economy, you've got to vote for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman, and you need to tell the American people that.

We've got these two big questions. Do you want to build on the prosperity and keep it going; do you want to build on the social progress and keep it going? And there's huge choices.

And the third thing I'd like to say is this—and James Lee said this; it really meant a lot to me. You know, I've watched Rodney and James Lee for the last 20 years, and now they're maybe the two most popular people in the Cabinet. You know, James Lee is from Yell County; Rodney is from Lee County. And I think, you know, one of the reasons that they do so well is they came from little towns, and they learned to talk to people instead of talking "governmentese," and they understand human nature.

And here's James Lee Witt up here giving you a civil rights speech about how he has changed FEMA. [*Laughter*] But what he proved is that FEMA could be both competent and reflective of America. And the truth is, the more reflective of America it got, the more competent it got.

Now, that's the third big issue. You know, I tried to make every American, even when they and, on many occasions, I'm sure you, disagreed with some particular decision I made, I tried to make people feel at home with the White House, to know that I was pulling for ordinary Americans, that everybody—everybody—in this country interests counted, with the White House, with the Cabinet, with the decisions that were made.

And I think it's really important that we keep moving forward to build one America. That's why I'm for this hate crimes legislation and for employment nondiscrimination. That's why I'm for stronger equal pay laws for women. That's why I think it's important that the Supreme Court continue to protect civil rights and human rights.

This is a big deal in this election. They're against the hate crimes legislation. They're even against our attempts to strengthen the equal pay laws for women. And most people believe the only issue at stake in the Supreme Court is a woman's right to choose. That's not true. That's at stake, by the way, and it will certainly change depending on whether Al Gore wins or loses this election. You can go to the bank on that, because there will be at least two appointments in the next 4 years.

But something that could have a more profound effect on America is that there is already a majority of 5-4 on that Court, that is determined to limit the ability of our National Government to protect and advance the civil rights and basic public health, safety, and welfare of the United States of America. Already, they have invalidated a provision of the Brady law because it required local folks to help us check criminal backgrounds. They invalidated a provision of the Violence Against Women Act—the Violence Against Women Act—because it required local government to do something to support our enforcement of that.

And in the last couple of weeks, they invalidated an anti-AIDS discrimination law. Now, these are bills we even got the Republicans in Washington to vote for. The Supreme Court is to the right of the Republican Congress already. You have got to think about this, and you've got to talk to people about this. People need to understand this is a big deal.

Now, it ought to be a happy election because nobody has to say anything bad about anybody else. Near as I can see that the Vice President has never one time questioned the character or the integrity of his opponents. I wish I could say the same thing for them about him. But it still hasn't been too bad an election. The only problem is, people are fixing to go to the polls, and there is still not absolute clarity about what the choice is, what the consequences are to real people and their families.

And look, this is a—I don't know if we'll have another election in my lifetime where we've got so much prosperity, so much social progress, the absence of crisis at home, the absence of threats to our security abroad. And I just want to echo one or two things that Dale Bumpers said.

First, let me say a word about Joe Lieberman. I've known him for 30 years. I

met him when he was running for State senate, and I went to law school, in Connecticut. More than anybody else in the Congress, I think he clearly understands the approach that we brought to the country in 1992, whether you call it the New Democratic approach or the DLC approach or whatever. Basically, it was the idea that we would stop making false choices in Washington and try to unify our country. We could bring the deficit down and increase investment in education. We could be pro-business and pro-labor. We could be for a clean environment and for a growing economy.

But you've got to be disciplined to do that. And he understands as well as anybody that the real appeal of our opponents in this election is, "It's your money; let's just take it all now." Even though, as Dale Bumpers said, it hasn't materialized yet.

And they want to talk about spending all this surplus right now. It reminds me of those letters we used to get in the mail from Ed McMahon, you know, the sweepstakes letter: "You may have won $10 million." If you went out and spent the 10 million, you should vote for Bush and Cheney. If not, you should vote for Gore and Lieberman.

And what Dale said about the Vice President is absolutely right. But let me say, I think I know something about economic policy. And I hope I've learned something about decisionmaking and about the world at large. It matters whether you know about these issues. It matters how hard you work. You know, this is a job. It's not just a media event every day. It's a job.

A lot of reasons that these things have piled up, these good, positive changes is that every day, we had all these folks in the White House and all these folks in the Cabinet and Al Gore and I, we were working. We treated this like a job. We showed up, and we worked like crazy for 8 years. I got the gray hair to prove it. We worked at it.

It matters whether you work hard, and it matters whether you can learn and whether you're curious. But it also matters what kind of experience you have. John Kennedy said the Presidency was preeminently a place of decisionmaking. Al Gore makes good decisions.

When he had to come off the campaign trail a few days ago, we had all that trouble in the Middle East, and we were sitting in this room and for about 30 minutes he was asking questions from the various members of our national security team. I thought to myself, I would feel absolutely comfortable, under any circumstances, with any crisis in the world, knowing that this man had to make the call, and that's a big deal. Because it's still a world with real challenges out there.

So, good man, good decisions. I think he will be a great President. And you know as well as I do that if everybody understood the differences and the positions like I just explained them to you today, we'd win. Do you have any doubt of that?

Okay, so I'll say again, you can win this election in Arkansas for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman if you want to bad enough. And you just think about what we've got. We've got a chance, as Dale said, that at least in my lifetime we've never had. And we may not have it again in our lifetime, to literally build the future of our dreams for our kids.

So you just go ask people three questions. Do you want to keep this prosperity going and extend it to the people who have been left behind? Do you want to build on the progress of the last 8 years? Do you want to keep doing it as one America, keep bringing people together? Do you want to vote for somebody who is experienced and solid and proven, who will work hard, who knows a lot, who understands the future? You just have one choice. It's not close. But it needs to be clear.

You've got 2 days to make it clear. Please, go do it. You'll be proud you did for the rest of your life.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:21 p.m. in the ballroom at the Statehouse Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to Arkansas State Attorney General Mark Pryor and his father, former Senator David Pryor; Janis Kearney, Special Assistant to the President and Special Advisory for Presidential History; Carroll Willis, director, community service division, Democratic National Committee; Kenneth L. Smith, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior; James R. (Jim Bob) Baker,

Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyard Administration; and former Senator Dale Bumpers.

Remarks to the Community in Pine Bluff, Arkansas

November 5, 2000

The President. Thank you all very much. I want to thank—first, I thank the choir and my friend of nearly 20 years Carrie Paige, who looks exactly like she did 20 years ago, and I look 50 years older. [*Laughter*] God's been good to you. Thank you for your song; thank you for your music, all of you, so much.

I want to thank all the folks who came here with me—our State party chair, Vaughn McQuary. I want to thank Attorney General Mark Pryor—I don't know if he's here or not—there he is—the chairman of the Gore/Lieberman campaign in Arkansas. Thank you for taking it on. I want to thank my friend Lottie Shackelford—and Sharon Priest and Hank Wilkins and all the other local officials.

And I want to thank my good buddy Congressman Danny Davis, who is from the Mississippi Delta in Arkansas, Phillips County, but now represents Chicago and is my great friend; thank him for coming here. I want to thank Carroll Willis, who has worked with me at the DNC for 8 years and has come down here and is working hard for us.

I want to thank James Lee Witt and Rodney Slater. What a great job they have done for you and for all America. They're two of the most popular people who have served in the Government in the tenure I've been there.

And I want to thank Dale Bumpers, who has stood by me through thick and thin and voted to turn this country around with the economic plan of 1993. I cannot tell you what having Senator Bumpers and Senator Pryor there early in my Presidency meant, not only to me but to the United States of America. They miss him in the Senate, but I'm glad he's home and stirring around with you.

And it's not true I fell asleep on him coming down here. [*Laughter*] He just has such a soothing, melodic voice, you just sort of drift off, you know? [*Laughter*]

I wanted to come down here for a couple reasons today. First of all, to say thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you. [Applause] Thank you.

Mike Ross—I met Mike Ross in 1982, when he was a teenager and he was driving me around, and I was trying to do something in 1982 that had never been done before. I had been elected Governor and defeated, and I was trying to get elected again. And that's a pretty difficult psychological thing, because you can't go tell the voters they were wrong. [*Laughter*]

On the other hand, if you tell them they were absolutely right, they wonder well, why should they make a mistake then if they were right the first time to kick you out? So we were weaving around it. And we knew that the election would turn on what happened in eastern Arkansas, what happened in the 11 counties of northeast Arkansas, what would happen in the Delta, and whether we could get two-thirds of the vote in Jefferson County.

And I thought about it today, looking out at this sea of faces, when election night came in and the early votes came in and our friends down here said, "You're going to carry this county two to one." I thought, shut the door; the election is over; we're going back into the Governor's Mansion. Thank you for that, too, all of you here.

Now I want to talk a little bit about the future. I came down here for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Mike Ross. But I also came down here for you and your children and your communities in this State that I love so much. You've been so good to me.

Look, this is the first time in 26 years I haven't been on a ballot somewhere. [*Laughter*] But it's okay. [*Laughter*] It's okay. And I am a little worried about what's going to happen to me when I leave office. They tell me I'll be lost for the first 3 or 4 months because, when I walk in a room, nobody will play a song anymore, and I won't know where I am. [*Laughter*]

But I want you to think about this. This election is just as important as the election in 1992 that sent Al Gore and me to Washington. And yet, sometimes I think people don't think that because things are going so well. And I can just say, number one, anybody in this audience who is over 30 years old knows this statement is true. If you've

lived more than 30 years, you can remember one time at least in your life when you made a big mistake—not because things were going so tough, but because they were going so well, you thought you didn't have to concentrate. Is that right?

Audience members. Right.

The President. Okay. So I just want you to take a minute or two and concentrate, and then I want to ask you to help concentrate the energies of every person you know in this State, and especially in this congressional district, on this election. It's about you and your kids and your grandkids and the future of our State and Nation.

And you know, President Reagan used to say that there was a simple test for whether the party in the White House ought to be continued: Are you better off today than you were 8 years ago? [Applause] Of course, they have now revised their position. Their position on that is, that's a test only if the Republicans are in. [*Laughter*] But they said it, and said it, and said it.

What I think the question you have to go out and ask people is—and I want you to think about it—I think this whole race for Congress and for the Presidency and Vice Presidency comes down to three questions: Number one, do you want to keep this prosperity going and bring it to the people that haven't felt it yet? If you do, you have a choice. Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Mike Ross—what do they say? They say, "First, let's keep paying down the debt." We've worked too hard to turn that deficit around. Let's get America out of debt for the first time since 1835.

"And then we'll figure out what we've got to do to do that, and then we'll take what's left, and we'll invest in education and health care and the environment and the national security of the country, and we'll give the American people a tax cut they can afford for college tuition, for long-term care for our parents, for child care, for retirement savings. Pay down the debt to keep interest rates low and economic growth high; invest and cut taxes, but within the discipline of thinking about our kids and our grandkids."

Now, you've got a choice. What do the other folks say in the Republican Party, Mike Ross's opponent and the candidates for national office? They say, "Hey, it's your money. We've got a surplus. We're going to give it all back to you now." Right? They say, "Vote for us; we'll give you a tax cut that's 3 times as big, and if you're young, we'll let you privatize your Social Security taxes so you can put them in the stock market; and if you're not so young, we'll just keep writing your check. And, oh, by the way, here's a little money we want to spend."

Now, what's the problem there?

Audience member. It doesn't add up.

The President. Yes, it doesn't add up. [*Laughter*] I want you all to listen to this. I want you all to listen to this; this is simple. People ask me all the time, "What great new progress did you bring to Washington?"

[*At this point, an audience member required assistance.*]

The President. Do you need to move that, gentlemen? Okay. Go ahead. We need some help here. Can we have one more person up here? He's just hot. Give him a hand. [*Applause*]

You all listen, this is one thing you could say that might change some votes in the next 2 days, and it's simple—and a lot of people don't know it. They admit, the other guys do, the surplus is supposed to be $2 trillion over the next 10 years. Now, who knows? Trillion, schmillion, that's a lot of zeroes. [*Laughter*] Let's make it simple. Let's say 2, okay? Then their tax cut and the interest rate associated with it costs 1.6 trillion—1.6. Then their privatization of Social Security, as the Vice President has pointed out, if you give the young people 2 percent of payroll and you promise the old folks the same money that the young people are taking out of the bank, you've got to come up with the money somewhere. Okay? That costs 1. Then the money they want to spend, it's about a half a trillion dollars—.5. Two trillion dollar surplus—2.

Here's the problem: 1.6 tax cut, 1 Social Security privatization, .5 spending equals 3.1—3.1 is bigger than 2. It doesn't add up, and it's going to take us back to deficits. We'll never pay the debt down; interest rates will be higher; the economy will be weaker.

Look, man, this affects everybody. This affects everybody. On a $100,000 home mortgage, the people paying on a $100,000 home mortgage are paying $2,000 a year less in payments because we turned deficits to surpluses, just on a home mortgage.

I've seen an economic study which indicates the Vice President's plan might keep interest rates one percent lower for a decade. Do you know what that's worth? Three hundred ninety billion dollars in lower home mortgages, $30 billion in lower car payments, $15 billion in lower college loan payments, lower credit card payments, lower business loans, more jobs, higher incomes, bigger stock market, stronger economy.

So, question number one—go out across this district and across this State and you tell them, if you want to build on the prosperity and get America out of debt and take what's left for education and health care and a tax cut, you only have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross.

Now, the second question. Our country is not just better off; it's a better country. Crime is at a 26-year low, welfare at a 32-year low. We have cleaner air, cleaner water, safer drinking water, 3 times as many toxic waste dumps cleaned up in our 8 years as in there 12 years before, more land set aside than any administration since Teddy Roosevelt, 100 years ago.

We have 90 percent of our children immunized against serious childhood diseases for the first time in history. We added 25 years to the life of Medicare, and the number of people without health insurance is going down for the first time in 12 years.

In our schools—all across America in our schools, math and reading and science scores are up; the dropout rate is down; the high school graduation is up. Last year, for the first time in the history of America, the African-American high school graduation rate was virtually equal to the white graduation rate. We have, in the last 3 years alone, a 300 percent increase in the number of African-American and Latino kids taking advanced placement classes and going to college, and the highest college-going rate ever, because we've given you the biggest increase in college aid since the GI bill 50 years ago.

Okay, question number two, do you want to build on this progress, or do you want to vote for somebody that will reverse the things we've done? You have a choice. Now look, this is something you can't see in those expensive TV ads. Let's just look at the facts here. Number one, if you vote for the Democrats, they will keep putting police on the streets. South Arkansas is full of law enforcement officers that were put there under our administration's program to keep driving the crime rate down.

Number two, we will keep putting teachers in the classroom and provide money to build and modernize and repair schools and for after-school programs and summer school programs and preschool programs. And we'll make the cost of college tuition tax deductible.

We will build on our clean air, clean water record, especially in the area of energy. And the thing that will matter most to southeast Arkansas is this: We are funding research now, which Al Gore will double or more, trying to determine how to make farm-based fuel more efficiently. Most of you think of it as ethanol made from corn. But you can actually make fuel from rice hulls, from grass, from hay, from anything.

Here's the problem. It takes about 7 gallons of gasoline to make 8 gallons of ethanol. But we're doing research which is very promising that, when we're through, you'll be able to make 8 gallons of ethanol with one gallon of gasoline. That's like you all will be getting 500 miles to the gallon. It will change America forever; it will do a lot to solve the problem of global warming, and it will do a lot to raise farm income in Arkansas and everyplace else in the United States of America.

Now, in the area of health care—you heard Mike Ross say this—we're for a Patients' Bill of Rights; we're for Medicare prescription drugs for all the seniors who need it. And we want to expand coverage to children and to their families. That's the Gore plan. Now, you've got a choice. If you vote for them, they have committed—committed—and in the case of his opponent, often voted already—to get rid of the 100,000 police, get rid of the 100,000 teachers, no money for school construction, no money to expand health care coverage, a phony Patients' Bill

of Rights that the HMO's will let them have, and a limited Medicare drug program because the big drug companies won't let them provide drugs to every senior that needs it.

You've got a choice. But if you want to keep building on the progress, if you want America to be safer, if you want the environment to be cleaner, if you want there to be more earnings in southeast Arkansas from a new energy future, if you want to expand health care coverage and, most important of all, if you want to make education better and make sure all of our children learn and all of our schools and everybody can afford to go to college—look, you just have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross.

Here's the third thing, and this is maybe the most important thing of all to me. If the good Lord came to me on this Sunday afternoon and said, "Bill, you can't finish your term; your life is over; you're history. I'll give you one wish. What would you wish for?" I wouldn't even wish for prosperity. I would wish for us to be a more united country.

Now look, I know it's hot, and I'm nearly done, but you've got to get this down because you've got to do the talking after I leave. What's the special thing about our economic expansion? It's not just the longest economic expansion in history. It's not just 22 million new jobs. This is the first time in 30 years when people at all income levels benefited. Yes, we had more billionaires and more millionaires. But we also had average income going up over $5,000; median income over $40,000 for the first time; 20-year low in poverty; 30 percent drop in child poverty; senior poverty below 10 percent for the first time in history; the welfare rolls cut in half.

Now, that's what's happened. Why? Because under our way of doing this, we all go forward together. That's why I wouldn't get rid of affirmative action when the Republicans wanted to do it, because I wanted us all to go forward together.

What does that mean? That means we Democrats, we're for things like the minimum wage and the hate crimes bill and equal pay for women and the defense of civil rights and human rights by our courts. That's what we're for. Now, if you want us to go forward together, you've got to be for Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross.

Now, let me just say one other thing about Mike Ross. I'm really proud of him. I've seen him grow up. I've seen him grow in the State Senate. I've seen him grow on this campaign trail. And I haven't seen any of these ads he was talking about. But I want you to know two things. I'll bet you anything there's some ad up somewhere where Mike's opponent is taking credit for all the money that Congress just came up with for two bridges across the Mississippi River. [*Laughter*] Is that right?

Well, I've got the Secretary of Transportation here as my witness. And I want you all to listen to this now. We've been working a long time for those bridges. But the Congress is in the control of Senator Lott from Mississippi and Tom Delay and Dick Armey from Texas, and they didn't want to give us that stuff. But we got those bridges, and we got $20 million for the Delta Commission, which will help this area. We got a lot of that stuff.

But I have to tell you what. You know why we got that money finally this year? Because Mike Ross ran against the incumbent Congressman, and they're terrified he's going to lose. When those bridges get built, you ought to name them after Mike Ross. They ought to be the Mike Ross Memorial Bridges across the Mississippi River. Don't take my word for it. Ask Rodney. Ask Danny Davis—he's in the Congress. I know what I'm talking about. You put a plaque on those bridges when they get up, and you put Mike Ross's name on it. Now, I just want to say—I just couldn't resist it. [*Laughter*]

I want to say one other thing. This young man has a lot of energy; he will work hard; he will come home; he will serve his constituent faithfully. And that incumbent Congressman could not do a bit better than he will do; and if the Democrats win a majority, as most people think they will, then he'll be more effective at coming home and doing that.

But there's a huge difference here. He will vote for you when he's in Washington, too. That is the difference.

And I'd like to say one final thing about Al Gore. You know, we've worked together for 8 years. He's done more good in the position of Vice President than any American in

the history of this country. There's no question about that. Whether it is in managing the reduction of the size of Government to its smallest point since 1960 or managing our effort to hook up our classrooms to the Internet or trying to get higher-mileage vehicles out of Detroit or dealing with a lot of our most sensitive foreign policy issues, he's experienced—he works like a dog. He works as hard as anybody I have ever known, and I don't care what anybody tells you—in the world we're living in, it matters whether you're willing to work hard, and he keeps learning, and he cares about these things.

Now, here's what I want to ask you to do. You can remember those three things I said, can't you? If you want to build on the prosperity, and you know that 3.1 is bigger than 2, and you want America to be out of debt with low interest rates and high growth, you've got to be for Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross.

If you want a Patients' Bill of Rights and Medicare drugs and funds to construct schools and hire teachers, if you want us to keep investing in new forms of fuel, if you want to keep moving forward with more police in little towns and rural areas in Arkansas, you only have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross.

If you want a policy where we're all going forward together, which is why we're for the minimum wage and equal pay and civil rights as one America, you only have one choice: Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross.

Now, here's what I want to tell you: This race is tight as a tick—[*laughter*]—here, in this district, in this State, and all over this country. There's 12 or 15 States that are within two points, one way or the other. And I'll tell you who is going to win. Who is going to win is, who wants to go bad enough.

If you want Mike Ross to win badly enough, there's enough people right here to win this race for him. If you want Al Gore to carry Arkansas and you believe in what we've done and you're proud of what we've done the last 8 years, and you can't imagine why anybody would want to reverse these policies that are working instead of build on them, there's enough people right here in this room to carry the election.

Every one of you—every one of you has a ton of friends who have never come to a rally like this, don't you? You've got a lot of friends that have never heard a President speak or a Governor speak, and they're probably wondering what you're doing here on Sunday afternoon. You could be home watching football. Is that right?

So what I want you to promise yourself is, every free minute you've got between now and the time the polls close, you will call people and say, "Let me tell you why you ought to vote, let me tell you why you ought to vote for Al Gore, Joe Lieberman, and Mike Ross." We've got to keep the prosperity going, not put it at risk; we've got to keep the progress going, not reverse it; we've got to keep going forward together as one country. If you will do that, Mike Ross and Al Gore and Joe Lieberman, they're going to have a big celebration Tuesday night, and our children will have a brighter future.

Thank you, and God Bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:30 p.m. in the Banquet Hall at the Pine Bluff Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to vocalist Carrie Paige; State Attorney General Mark Pryor; Lottie Shackelford, vice chair, and Carroll Willis, director, community service division, Democratic National Committee; Arkansas Secretary of State Sharon Priest; State Representative Hank Wilkins; former Senators Dale Bumpers and David Pryor; and Mike Ross, candidate for Arkansas' Fourth Congressional District.

Proclamation 7370—National Family Caregivers Month, 2000

November 5, 2000

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

All Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the family caregivers among us—the generous, compassionate individuals who daily face the challenge of caring for loved ones who are frail, chronically ill, or living with disabilities that restrict their independence. These everyday heroes, living quietly among us in families and communities across the country, are the major source of long-term

care in America. By providing billions of dollars' worth of caregiving services each year, they dramatically reduce the demands on our Nation's health care system and make an extraordinary contribution to the quality of life of their loved ones.

Caregivers often pay an emotional and physical price as well as a financial one. Few enjoy any free time because they must juggle the demands of home and work while meeting the special needs of the individuals in their care. Many do not have the support of other family members or friends and consequently experience depression, a sense of isolation, and the stress of knowing they must carry out their important duties alone. Studies have indicated that such caregiver stress can have a physical consequence, contributing to a higher mortality rate among elderly caregivers who themselves have a history of chronic illness.

But caregivers should not have to face their challenges alone, and my Administration has worked hard to ensure that they will not have to do so. I am pleased that the Congress has finally passed the Older Americans Act Amendments of 2000, which will strengthen and improve the services available to senior citizens in every State, from home-delivered meals to transportation services to legal assistance. This legislation also includes authorization for our new National Family Caregiver Support Program, which will provide quality respite care and other support services to hundreds of thousands of families who are struggling to care for loved ones.

The Long-Term Care Security Act that I signed into law in September authorizes the Office of Personnel Management to negotiate with private insurers to offer more affordable, high-quality, long-term care insurance policies to Federal employees, retirees, and their families. This initiative will help some 13 million Americans better prepare for the future and ease the fear of having to deplete their life savings to care for a loved one.

We must also help families who need long-term care assistance right now. I continue to call on the Congress to provide a $3,000 tax credit for the millions of Americans with long-term care needs and the families who care for them. Passage of a new, voluntary Medicare prescription drug benefit would also go a long way toward easing the financial burden on family caregivers.

Caregiving touches us all, either within our own families or within our communities. As we observe National Family Caregivers Month, let us thank the millions of devoted men and women across our Nation who enable our loved ones who are frail, chronically ill, or living with disabilities to live in dignity in the warmth and familiarity of home.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2000 as National Family Caregivers Month. I call upon all Americans to acknowledge and honor the contributions of caregivers to the quality of our national life.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 7, 2000]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 6, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on November 8.

Remarks on Signing Poor Nation Debt-Relief Funding Legislation

November 6, 2000

The President. Thank you very much. I'd like to welcome you all here to the White House, especially the distinguished members of the diplomatic corps who are here, and four of the Members of the United States Congress who helped to make this possible: Representative Spencer Bachus, Representative John Kasich, Representative John LaFalce, and Senator Paul Sarbanes. I thank you all for being here.

You know, in Washington, DC, if you get a group this diverse in the same room, you're normally there for a roast. [*Laughter*] Today, happily, it's a celebration.

Just a few moments ago, with the members of the administration who are here, I signed into law a bill to provide funding for the entire $435 million needed for the United States to do its share in debt relief this year for the world's poorest countries. It also gives the International Monetary Fund the authority it needs to do its share, as well.

I am so grateful for everyone here who made it possible, including Secretaries Summers and Albright, Gene Sperling, Sandy Berger, and the other members of the administration, representatives of the religious organizations, the NGO's, the business community, members of the diplomatic corps, and especially the Members of Congress who had the most astonishing bipartisan coalition for this endeavor.

I would like to thank one Member who is not here, Nancy Pelosi, for all the work she did on this as well. And I am sorry that Bobby Shriver, who also played a key role in this effort, could not be with us today because of his mother's illness, and I ask for your prayers for him and his family, and especially for his remarkable mother, Eunice, who has fought for so many good humanitarian causes in her long and rich life.

Our Nation is taking this important step today because we understand that making the global economy work for everyone is not a political nicety but an economic, strategic, and moral necessity. Open markets and open trade are critically important to lifting living standards and building shared prosperity. But they alone cannot carry the burden of lifting the poorest nations out of poverty. While the forces of globalization may be inexorable, its benefits are not, especially for countries that lack the most important building blocks of progress—a healthy population with broadbased literacy.

Here in our Nation, this will be remembered as a time of great plenty, but we cannot forget that for too many of the world—too many in the world, it is still a time of astonishing poverty. Nearly half the human race, 2.8 billion people, lives on less than $2 a day. In many countries, a child is 3 times more likely to die before the age of 5 than to go to secondary school. One in 10 children dies before his or her first birthday. One in three is malnourished. The average adult has only 3 years of schooling. This is not right, not necessary, and no longer acceptable.

I have committed our Nation during my service as President to wage an intensified battle against global poverty. I never accepted the idea that millions have to be left behind while the rest of us move ahead. The health of nations is not a zero-sum game. By lifting the weakest, poorest among us, we lift all the rest of us, as well.

I hope that this idea will be a priority in our foreign policy for a long time to come, no less important than promoting trade, investment and financial stability. It will be good for our economy because it represents an investment in future markets, good for our security because in the long run it is dangerously destabilizing to have half the world on the cutting edge of technology while the other half struggles on the bare edge of survival.

But most of all, as the religious leaders around the world have told us, and as those here will make clear again, it will be good for our souls, because global poverty is a moral affront and confronting the challenge is simply the right thing to do.

The United States has greatly increased funding to combat diseases like HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis in developing countries, which combine to claim one in four of the lives lost on the planet every year. With the bill I just signed, we will have more than doubled our support for HIV/AIDS prevention treatment and care in just 2 years. And again, this is a great tribute to the bipartisan agreement achieved in Congress.

I hope soon Congress will put even more resources behind the World Bank's AIDS trust fund, a bipartisan initiative that I think deserves every American's support, and pass a vaccine tax credit to increase immunization in the world's poorest countries.

We have also launched a $300 million pilot initiative to provide free meals, to encourage the parents of 9 million boys and girls in poor countries to send them to school. We are working to dramatically expand support for nations committed to expanding basic literacy and reducing abusive child labor. We have initiated the Digital Opportunity Task Force, and we're working to help 20 African

countries now connect to the Internet, training 1,500 government and civic institutions to do it.

But none of these efforts is more important than relieving the world's poorest nations from the crippling burden of massive debt. Debt that was often piled up by dictators who have now fled the scene. Debt so crushing that in some instances, the annual interest payments on it exceeds the national budgets for health and education. Debt that is a drag on growth and a drain on resources that could be used to help meet the most basic human needs: clean water, schools, medicine, food.

More than a year ago, His Holiness the Pope called for debt forgiveness in this, the jubilee year. With the help of countless others, this grassroots effort grew into Jubilee 2000. The United States made this issue a centerpiece of the G–7 summit in Cologne last year. We crafted a plan for creditor nations to triple the debt relief available to the world's poorest nations, provided—and this is an important "provided"—that they committed themselves to economic reform, that they channel the savings into health and education, and that they resolve to have peaceful relations with their neighbors.

Today the United States follows through on our part of that international commitment. Already, debt relief is making a difference around the world. Mozambique, for example, is buying much-needed medicines for government clinics. Uganda used its savings to double its primary school enrollment.

Now, with the United States' contribution, Bolivia will save $77 million and will start using it on health and education. Honduras will begin to offer every child 9 years of schooling, instead of 6. I believe everyone here is clear about why we have had the success so far. We have worked together across lines that too often divide—lines of party, religion, geography—to accomplish a common aid.

In this group, we have evangelists and economists, Democrats and Republicans, nongovernmental organizations, labor unions, the business community, advocates for Africa. When you get this many people from this many different backgrounds pointing in the same direction, you can be pretty sure it's the right direction.

I thank all of you again for your inspired work. I also want to thank one more person who couldn't be here today, Bono. [*Laughter*] Bono has done—I can't help noting, there have been a lot of ancillary benefits to Bono's passionate devotion to this. [*Laughter*] I'll never forget one day Secretary Summers coming in to me saying, "You know, some guy just came in to see me in jeans and a T-shirt, and he just had one name, but he sure was smart. Do you know anything about him?" [*Laughter*]

So Bono has advanced the cultural awareness—[*laughter*]—of the American political establishment, embracing everyone from Larry Summers to Jesse Helms. It's been a great gift to America's appreciation of modern music. [*Laughter*]

One of U2's biggest hits is "I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For." Well, with this bill and these funds and this diverse coalition, Bono and the rest of us, we've found what we're looking for, and we need to build on it. And let's give Bono a big hand today. He'll be watching, I'm sure. [*Applause*] Thank you.

The song goes on to say that we have found the spirit to climb the highest mountains, to break the bonds and loose the chains. It shows that when we get the Pope and the pop stars all singing on the same sheet of music, our voices do carry to the heavens. The question now for us is, where do we go from here? We have to implement this program well; and if we do implement it well and it works, then there will be broad support around the world to extend it to other nations.

We need to find the same energy to develop a real, comprehensive, and adequate consensus on helping nations to turn around the AIDS struggle. We need to direct this energy toward making sure that every child, even in the poorest countries, gets the chance to develop his or her full potential in a decent school. We need to develop the capacity to help struggling countries that have totally inadequate public health systems and inadequate clean water systems, the basics of a decent life, develop those systems.

In short, we need to redirect this energy toward a worldwide consensus on the importance of building a global economy with a human face that leaves no one behind. Based on what I have seen in these last several months, I think we can do that, if we bring the same dedication, the same commitment, the same energy that have brought about this celebration today.

Let me say, for me, this last year and a half or so has been an incredible experience, thanks to so many of you. I thank particularly the Members of Congress. I embarrassed, I think, Spencer Bachus—I was afraid it would generate a write-in campaign to beat him in his heavily Republican district because I said that he had absolutely nothing to gain by doing this. He just did it because he thought it was the right thing to do. And that's true of so many of you.

So I just want to say that I believe this is one of the most important moments of the last 8 years for the United States of America. I believe that this will put our country squarely on the side of humanity for a very, very long time to come. And I am profoundly grateful to all of you.

And now I would like to ask the president of Bread for the World, the Reverend David Beckmann, to come to the podium.

Thank you very much.

[*At this point Reverend Beckmann, Rev. Elenora Giddings Ivory, director, Washington office, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and Secretary of the Treasury Lawrence H. Summers made brief remarks.*]

The President. Thank you very much. This is the conclusion of our program. I would like to say that I am personally grateful to a lot of people who didn't get to speak today, but who worked like crazy on this: Gene Sperling, who found an excuse to sleep even less at night until this passed—[*laughter*]—and John Podesta; Steve Ricchetti; Chuck Brain, who lobbied this for us so heavily in the Congress. And I thank Sylvia Mathews and Jack Lew at OMB, and all the others who worked on this. And, Secretary Albright, I thank you.

One of the things that we do with our AID program to try to alleviate poverty is, we make 2 million microenterprise loans a year to poor people trying to develop functional economic enterprises in poor countries. It is absolutely impossible if they're being weighed down. I completely agree with the conclusion of Secretary Summers' talk. But the instruments for creating opportunity that the United States has now are far more likely to succeed in those states where the debt has been relieved.

What a happy day. Let's remember the admonition of all the speakers and keep on working at it. And next year when I'm just Joe Citizen, I'll do my part, too. Let's keep going.

Thank you very much. God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at noon in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Robert Shriver III, advocate, Jubilee 2000, and his mother, Eunice Kennedy Shriver; Pope John Paul II; and musician Bono.

Statement on the Death of David Brower

November 6, 2000

I was saddened to learn today of the death of David Brower, one of the earliest and most ardent defenders of the extraordinary natural heritage that enriches and unites all Americans. Over more than half a century, from Cape Cod to the Grand Canyon to the Alaska wilderness, he fought passionately to preserve our Nation's greatest natural treasures. His fiery activism helped build and energize the modern environmental movement, rallying countless people to the defense of our precious planet. Like the towering redwoods of his native California, David Brower's conservation legacy will stand tall and proud for generations to come.

Hillary and I extend our deepest condolences to his wife Anne, his family, and his many friends and supporters throughout the world.

Statement on Signing the Executive Order on Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

November 6, 2000

Today I am pleased to sign a revised Executive order on consultation with Indian tribal governments. This Executive order, itself based on consultation, will renew my administration's commitment to tribal sovereignty and our government-to-government relationship.

The first Americans hold a unique place in our history. Long before others came to our shores, the first Americans had established self-governing societies. Among their societies, democracy flourished long before the founding of our Nation. Our Nation entered into treaties with Indian nations, which acknowledged their right to self-government and protected their lands. The Constitution affirms the United States' government-to-government relationship with Indian tribes both in the Commerce Clause, which establishes that "the Congress shall have the Power To . . . regulate commerce . . . with the Indian Tribes," and in the Supremacy Clause, which ratifies the Indian treaties that the United States entered into prior to 1787.

Indian nations and tribes ceded lands, water, and mineral rights in exchange for peace, security, health care, and education. The Federal Government did not always live up to its end of the bargain. That was wrong, and I have worked hard to change that by recognizing the importance of tribal sovereignty and government-to-government relations. When I became the first President since James Monroe to invite the leaders of every tribe to the White House in April 1994, I vowed to honor and respect tribal sovereignty. At that historic meeting, I issued a memorandum directing all Federal agencies to consult with Indian tribes before making decisions on matters affecting American Indian and Alaska Native peoples.

Today, there is nothing more important in Federal-tribal relations than fostering true government-to-government relations to empower American Indians and Alaska Natives to improve their own lives, the lives of their children, and the generations to come. We must continue to engage in a partnership, so that the first Americans can reach their full potential. So, in our Nation's relations with Indian tribes, our first principle must be to respect the right of American Indians and Alaska Natives to self-determination. We must respect Native Americans' rights to choose for themselves their own way of life on their own lands according to their time honored cultures and traditions. We must also acknowledge that American Indians and Alaska Natives must have access to new technology and commerce to promote economic opportunity in their homelands.

Today, I reaffirm our commitment to tribal sovereignty, self-determination, and self-government by issuing this revised Executive order on consultation and coordination with Indian tribal governments. This Executive order builds on prior actions and strengthens our government-to-government relationship with Indian tribes. It will ensure that all Executive departments and agencies consult with Indian tribes and respect tribal sovereignty as they develop policy on issues that impact Indian communities.

Executive Order 13175—Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

November 6, 2000

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to establish regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials in the development of Federal policies that have tribal implications, to strengthen the United States government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes, and to reduce the imposition of unfunded mandates upon Indian tribes; it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. *Definitions.* For purposes of this order:

(a) "Policies that have tribal implications" refers to regulations, legislative comments or proposed legislation, and other policy statements or actions that have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution

of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

(b) "Indian tribe" means an Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community that the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe pursuant to the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994, 25 U.S.C. 479a.

(c) "Agency" means any authority of the United States that is an "agency" under 44 U.S.C. 3502(1), other than those considered to be independent regulatory agencies, as defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(5).

(d) "Tribal officials" means elected or duly appointed officials of Indian tribal governments or authorized intertribal organizations.

Sec. 2. *Fundamental Principles.* In formulating or implementing policies that have tribal implications, agencies shall be guided by the following fundamental principles:

(a) The United States has a unique legal relationship with Indian tribal governments as set forth in the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, Executive Orders, and court decisions. Since the formation of the Union, the United States has recognized Indian tribes as domestic dependent nations under its protection. The Federal Government has enacted numerous statutes and promulgated numerous regulations that establish and define a trust relationship with Indian tribes.

(b) Our Nation, under the law of the United States, in accordance with treaties, statutes, Executive Orders, and judicial decisions, has recognized the right of Indian tribes to self-government. As domestic dependent nations, Indian tribes exercise inherent sovereign powers over their members and territory. The United States continues to work with Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis to address issues concerning Indian tribal self-government, tribal trust resources, and Indian tribal treaty and other rights.

(c) The United States recognizes the right of Indian tribes to self-government and supports tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

Sec. 3. *Policymaking Criteria.* In addition to adhering to the fundamental principles set forth in section 2, agencies shall adhere, to the extent permitted by law, to the following criteria when formulating and implementing policies that have tribal implications:

(a) Agencies shall respect Indian tribal self-government and sovereignty, honor tribal treaty and other rights, and strive to meet the responsibilities that arise from the unique legal relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribal governments.

(b) With respect to Federal statutes and regulations administered by Indian tribal governments, the Federal Government shall grant Indian tribal governments the maximum administrative discretion possible.

(c) When undertaking to formulate and implement policies that have tribal implications, agencies shall:

(1) encourage Indian tribes to develop their own policies to achieve program objectives;

(2) where possible, defer to Indian tribes to establish standards; and

(3) in determining whether to establish Federal standards, consult with tribal officials as to the need for Federal standards and any alternatives that would limit the scope of Federal standards or otherwise preserve the prerogatives and authority of Indian tribes.

Sec. 4. *Special Requirements for Legislative Proposals.* Agencies shall not submit to the Congress legislation that would be inconsistent with the policymaking criteria in Section 3.

Sec. 5. *Consultation.* (a) Each agency shall have an accountable process to ensure meaningful and timely input by tribal officials in the development of regulatory policies that have tribal implications. Within 30 days after the effective date of this order, the head of each agency shall designate an official with principal responsibility for the agency's implementation of this order. Within 60 days of the effective date of this order, the designated official shall submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a description of the agency's consultation process.

(b) To the extent practicable and permitted by law, no agency shall promulgate any regulation that has tribal implications, that imposes substantial direct compliance costs on Indian tribal governments, and that is not required by statute, unless:

(1) funds necessary to pay the direct costs incurred by the Indian tribal government or the tribe in complying with the regulation are provided by the Federal Government; or

(2) the agency, prior to the formal promulgation of the regulation,

(A) consulted with tribal officials early in the process of developing the proposed regulation;

(B) in a separately identified portion of the preamble to the regulation as it is to be issued in the *Federal Register*, provides to the Director of OMB a tribal summary impact statement, which consists of a description of the extent of the agency's prior consultation with tribal officials, a summary of the nature of their concerns and the agency's position supporting the need to issue the regulation, and a statement of the extent to which the concerns of tribal officials have been met; and

(C) makes available to the Director of OMB any written communications submitted to the agency by tribal officials.

(c) To the extent practicable and permitted by law, no agency shall promulgate any regulation that has tribal implications and that preempts tribal law unless the agency, prior to the formal promulgation of the regulation,

(1) consulted with tribal officials early in the process of developing the proposed regulation;

(2) in a separately identified portion of the preamble to the regulation as it is to be issued in the *Federal Register*, provides to the Director of OMB a tribal summary impact statement, which consists of a description of the extent of the agency's prior consultation with tribal officials, a summary of the nature of their concerns and the agency's position supporting the need to issue the regulation, and a statement of the extent to which the concerns of tribal officials have been met; and

(3) makes available to the Director of OMB any written communications submitted to the agency by tribal officials.

(d) On issues relating to tribal self-government, tribal trust resources, or Indian tribal treaty and other rights, each agency should explore and, where appropriate, use consensual mechanisms for developing regulations, including negotiated rulemaking.

Sec. 6. *Increasing Flexibility for Indian Tribal Waivers.*

(a) Agencies shall review the processes under which Indian tribes apply for waivers of statutory and regulatory requirements and take appropriate steps to streamline those processes.

(b) Each agency shall, to the extent practicable and permitted by law, consider any application by an Indian tribe for a waiver of statutory or regulatory requirements in connection with any program administered by the agency with a general view toward increasing opportunities for utilizing flexible policy approaches at the Indian tribal level in cases in which the proposed waiver is consistent with the applicable Federal policy objectives and is otherwise appropriate.

(c) Each agency shall, to the extent practicable and permitted by law, render a decision upon a complete application for a waiver within 120 days of receipt of such application by the agency, or as otherwise provided by law or regulation. If the application for waiver is not granted, the agency shall provide the applicant with timely written notice of the decision and the reasons therefor.

(d) This section applies only to statutory or regulatory requirements that are discretionary and subject to waiver by the agency.

Sec. 7. *Accountability.*

(a) In transmitting any draft final regulation that has tribal implications to OMB pursuant to Executive Order 12866 of September 30, 1993, each agency shall include a certification from the official designated to ensure compliance with this order stating that the requirements of this order have been met in a meaningful and timely manner.

(b) In transmitting proposed legislation that has tribal implications to OMB, each agency shall include a certification from the official designated to ensure compliance with this order that all relevant requirements of this order have been met.

(c) Within 180 days after the effective date of this order the Director of OMB and the Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs shall confer with tribal officials to ensure that this order is being properly and effectively implemented.

Sec. 8. *Independent Agencies.* Independent regulatory agencies are encouraged to comply with the provisions of this order.

Sec. 9. *General Provisions.* (a) This order shall supplement but not supersede the requirements contained in Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), Executive Order 12988 (Civil Justice Reform), OMB Circular A–19, and the Executive Memorandum of April 29, 1994, on Government-to-Government Relations with Native American Tribal Governments.

(b) This order shall complement the consultation and waiver provisions in sections 6 and 7 of Executive Order 13132 (Federalism).

(c) Executive Order 13084 (Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments) is revoked at the time this order takes effect.

(d) This order shall be effective 60 days after the date of this order.

Sec. 10. *Judicial Review.* This order is intended only to improve the internal management of the executive branch, and is not intended to create any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by a party against the United States, its agencies, or any person.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
November 6, 2000.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 8, 2000]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on November 9.

Statement on Signing the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2001

November 6, 2000

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 4811, the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2001. As I have often said, there is a right and a wrong way to conduct budget negotiations. When we have worked together, we have unfailingly made progress. When there is a genuine spirit of cooperation and compromise, we can accomplish great things for our people. This Act, the result of just such a bipartisan effort, supports our efforts to promote peace and stability around the world, in turn helping to make our Nation more safe and secure.

I am particularly pleased that this legislation funds our landmark initiative to provide debt relief to the poorest of the world's nations. By fully funding our commitment to debt relief, the bill supports this historic effort to give these poorest countries a critical opportunity to effect reform while using funds to reduce poverty and provide basic health care and education for their people. I commend the bipartisan efforts in the Congress to fund this vital program, as well as efforts of all those across the political spectrum who joined forces to secure this critically important funding.

Likewise, I am pleased that this legislation dramatically increases funding to fight HIV/AIDS. In nations around the world, HIV/AIDS is a leading cause of death and is undermining decades of effort to reduce mortality, improve health, expand educational opportunities, and lift people out of poverty. The funds provided by the bill will significantly expand our prevention and treatment efforts in Africa and other regions of the world to turn the tide against this deadly pandemic.

This legislation also helps strengthen our efforts to support democracy and stability in Southeastern Europe, the Newly Independent States, and other key regions. In particular, it includes increased funding for our continued efforts to support democracy and reform in Kosovo, and to support the

new, democratically elected government in Yugoslavia. It also includes additional resources to combat terrorism and nuclear proliferation.

Certain provisions of the Act could interfere with my sole constitutional authority in the area of foreign affairs by directing or burdening my negotiations with foreign governments and international organizations. Several sections, including 514 (Surplus Commodities), 564 (Sanctuary to Indicted War Criminals), and 577 (Kyoto Protocol), purport to specifically direct the Executive on how to proceed in negotiations or discussions with international organizations and foreign governments. I will not interpret these provisions to limit my ability to negotiate and enter into agreements with foreign nations. In order to avoid intrusion into my negotiating authority and my ability to maintain the confidentiality of sensitive diplomatic negotiations, I will not interpret section 566(b) (Greenhouse Gas Emissions) to require me to disclose either the contents of diplomatic communications or specific plans for particular negotiations in the future.

The legislation provides increased funding for a number of other programs that support our global interests. It provides additional funding for our Greening the Globe Initiative, which protects biodiversity habitats around the world, and for the Global Environment Facility. It also provides increases for our Peace Corps volunteers around the world, and for the Export-Import Bank, which supports the export of American products overseas. I am also pleased that the Act provides $135 million for emergency disaster assistance for Southern Africa, including Mozambique.

Finally, I am pleased that this legislation commits additional critical funding for international family planning organizations and lifts the restrictions hampering their work, restrictions I have strongly opposed in the past.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
November 6, 2000.

NOTE: H.R. 4811, approved November 6, was assigned Public Law No. 106–429.

Statement on Signing the Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act

November 6, 2000

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 5178, the Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act. This legislation requires changes in the bloodborne pathogens standard in effect under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. Supported by healthcare workers and their unions, as well as a bipartisan group of Members of Congress, this bill will help to ensure the safety of health care workers who may be exposed to disease while handling certain medical devices. The Needlestick Safety Act makes clearer the responsibility of employers to lessen the risk of injuries to workers from contaminated sharp devices. It also encourages manufacturers of medical sharps to increase the number of safer devices in the market. This legislation will help to make health care occupations safer.

NOTE: H.R. 5178, approved November 6, was assigned Public Law No. 106–430.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on Cyprus

November 6, 2000

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)

In accordance with Public Law 95–384 (22 U.S.C. 2373(c)), I submit to you this report on progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question covering the period August 1–September 30, 2000. The previous submission covered events during June and July 2000.

The United States has remained steadfast in its efforts to bring about a negotiated Cyprus settlement based on a bizonal, bicommunal federation. I conveyed our views to Turkish President Sezer during a meeting at the United Nations Millennium Summit, emphasizing the importance of a just and lasting solution for all Cypriots. Secretary Albright delivered a similar message to her Greek and Turkish counterparts during the United Nations General Assembly. Special Presidential Emissary Alfred Moses,

Special Cyprus Coordinator Thomas Weston, and U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Donald Bandler continued to provide diplomatic support to the United Nations-sponsored proximity talks in July and early August in Geneva and again in September in New York. The United Nations reports that this process has taken a "qualitative step forward" and was scheduled to resume in Geneva on November 1.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Statement on Signing the Indian Land Consolidation Act Amendments of 2000

November 7, 2000

Today I am pleased to sign into law S. 1586, the "Indian Land Consolidation Act Amendments of 2000." This Act is critical to the economic viability of individually owned Indian lands and the success of the Department of the Interior's ongoing efforts to implement the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994. It will help reduce the administrative and financial burden arising from the fractionated ownership of Indian lands.

The Act puts provisions in place for probate reform and establishing uniform rules for the descent and distribution of interests in allotted lands. It also contains provisions for the consolidation of fractional interests, as well as preventing lands from being taken out of trust when inherited by non-Indians. In addition, it will enhance opportunities for economic development by specifying the minimum percentage of owners of fractional interests that must consent to leasing agreements. Finally, it extends the Secretary's authority to acquire fractional interests, of 2 percent or less, for tribal consolidation, through the pilot project that my Administration and the Congress initiated in 1999. Since many Native Americans die without wills, it also authorizes estate planning assistance.

The Act results from our close consultation and collaboration with the Congress, the tribes, and the Indian landowners that began in 1994 and has been one of my Administration's top priorities in Indian trust fund management reform. Today's action will help bring Indian land ownership, management, and development into the 21st century.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
November 7, 2000.

NOTE: S. 1586, approved November 7, was assigned Public Law No. 106–462.

Proclamation 7371—National Adoption Month, 2000

November 7, 2000

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Families are the cornerstone of our Nation. Yet, today, tens of thousands of America's children are living within our child welfare system, without the sustained love and care of permanent families. For many of these children, often shuttled from one living situation to another, adoption opens the door to loving parents and permanent homes, where they can put down roots and learn what it means to be part of a safe, stable family. Adoption gives children who have been orphaned, abandoned, or abused a precious second chance at happiness; a chance to love and be loved and to reach their full potential in a secure, supportive environment.

While foster care offers children a safe temporary haven, adoption allows children to have the permanent homes they deserve. That is why increasing the chances of adoption for children in the foster care system has been one of my Administration's chief goals. Over the last 8 years, we have worked with the Congress to craft legislation that makes it easier, faster, and more affordable for parents to adopt children. Adoptive parents—like all new parents—can now take time off to care for their newly adopted children without fear of losing their jobs. We

have ensured health coverage for adopted children with special needs, barred discrimination and delays of adoptions on the basis of race or ethnicity, provided tax cuts to families adopting children, and offered States financial incentives to move children more rapidly from foster care into the permanent homes of loving families.

We are beginning to see dramatic results from these efforts. Last year alone, 46,000 foster children were adopted—an increase of nearly 65 percent since 1996. All 50 States, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, have succeeded in increasing the number of children adopted from their child welfare systems. This puts us well on the way to meeting my goal of doubling the annual number of adoptions from 28,000 in 1996 to 56,000 in 2002.

Despite our efforts, nearly 20,000 18-year-olds still leave foster care each year without the emotional, social, and financial support that adoptive families provide. To help them make the challenging transition to successful, independent adulthood, I signed the Foster Care Independence Act last year. This legislation provides young people who are growing too old for the foster care system with better educational opportunities and access to health care, training, housing assistance, counseling, and other services.

As we observe National Adoption Month, we should take pride in our progress, but realize that there is more work to be done. Let us recommit ourselves to giving our Nation's most vulnerable children what every child deserves and needs—a safe, stable home and a loving family. And let us also give thanks for the many generous and compassionate families who, through adoption, have opened their hearts and homes and changed a child's life forever.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2000 as National Adoption Month. I urge all Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities to honor adoptive families and to participate in efforts to find permanent, loving homes for waiting children.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 9, 2000]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on November 13.

Remarks on Returning from Chappaqua, New York, and an Exchange With Reporters

November 8, 2000

2000 Presidential Election

The President. Good afternoon. Well, if ever there was a doubt about the importance of exercising democracy's most fundamental right, the right to vote, yesterday put it to rest. No American will ever be able to seriously say again, "My vote doesn't count."

The American people have now spoken, but it's going to take a little while to determine exactly what they said. The process for that is in motion, and the rest of us will have to let it play out.

I want to congratulate Vice President Gore and Governor Bush on a vigorous, hard-fought, truly remarkable campaign.

Thank you very much.

Conversation With Vice President Gore

Q. Mr. President, did you advise the Vice President to rescind his concession last night?

The President. No, sir. I didn't talk to him about it at all, one way or the other. I talked to him afterward.

We had a great talk later, when the situation was as it is now, and we were laughing. We had a—he was in a good humor. He talked—we talked about the unpredictability of life and how he'd done all he could, and he was pleased that he was ahead in the popular vote at the time. I don't know what the latest totals are. And we had a very good talk. And he congratulated Hillary, and they had a nice little visit.

But I was just like you last night—I was a fascinated observer. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:26 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Republican Presidential candidate Gov. George W. Bush.

Proclamation 7372—National American Indian Heritage Month, 2000

November 8, 2000

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians are a special part of the tapestry of our Nation's history. As keepers of a rich and ancient cultural heritage, Native Americans share with all of us the beauty of their art, the power of their songs, and the grace of their people. As individuals, they have distinguished themselves in virtually every field, from the arts to the sciences, from the world of sports to the world of commerce.

This month, we celebrate the culture and contributions of the first Americans. We also remember with sorrow the suffering they endured because of past Federal actions and policies that had long-term and often devastating consequences for Native Americans and their culture. But, as the new millennium dawns, there is reason for optimism. During my 1999 New Markets tour of the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota and my visit to the Navajo Nation in New Mexico in April of this year, I saw firsthand a strength of spirit and hope sweeping through Indian Country. The Vice President and I have worked with tribes to foster this hope—through economic development initiatives and improved education and health care.

We still have much to accomplish, however. While my Administration has worked hard to bridge the digital divide and bring the Information Superhighway to Indian Country, some areas still do not have telephone and power lines. We continue striving to provide American Indians with the tools they need to strengthen family and community life by fighting poverty, crime, alcohol and drug abuse, and domestic violence, and we are working with tribes to improve academic achievement and strengthen tribal colleges.

We are also seeking to ensure that tribal leaders have a voice equal to that of Federal and State officials in addressing issues of concern to all our citizens. I reaffirmed that commitment to tribal sovereignty and self-determination by issuing this month a revised Executive Order on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments. This order builds on prior actions and strengthens our government-to-government relationship with Indian tribes by ensuring that all Executive departments and agencies consult with Indian tribes and respect tribal sovereignty as the agencies consider policy initiatives that affect Indian communities.

This year, my Administration proposed the largest budget increase ever for a comprehensive Native American initiative for health care, education, infrastructure, and economic development. Just last month, as part of the Department of the Interior appropriations legislation, I signed into law one segment of this budget initiative that includes significant investments for school construction in Indian Country and the largest funding increase ever for the Indian Health Service. These are the kinds of investments that will empower tribal communities to address an array of needs and, ultimately, to achieve a better standard of living.

Back in 1994, when I first met with the tribal leaders of more than 500 Indian nations at the White House, I saw the strength and determination that have enabled Native Americans to overcome extraordinary barriers and protect their hard-won civil and political rights. Since then, by working together, we have established a new standard for Federal Indian policy—one that promotes an effective government-to-government relationship between the Federal Government and the tribes, and that seeks to ensure greater prosperity, self-reliance, and hope for all Native Americans. While we cannot erase the tragedies of the past, we can create a future where all of our country's people share in America's great promise.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2000 as National American Indian Heritage Month. I urge all Americans, as well as their elected representatives at the Federal, State, local, and tribal levels, to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 13, 2000]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 9, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on November 15.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

November 4

In the afternoon, the President traveled from Chappaqua, NY, to New York City. In the evening, he traveled to Little Rock, AR.

November 5

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Pine Bluff, AR, and in the evening, he returned to Washington, DC.

November 6

In the evening, the President traveled to Chappaqua, NY.

November 7

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton went to their polling place at Douglas Grafflin Elementary School. Later, they traveled to New York City.

November 8

In the morning, the President returned to Washington, DC.

November 9

In the afternoon, the President met with Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority in the Oval Office.

The President announced his intention to appoint Ronald Burkle, James Kimsey, Dorothy McAuliffe, and Jay Stein to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

The President announced his intention to appoint Lee Fisher as a member of the Board of Governors of the United Service Organizations, Inc.

The President announced his intention to appoint Kristin E. Flaten to serve as a member of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel.

The President announced his intention to appoint James C. Harris and James W. Hubbard as members of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation.

The President announced his intention to appoint Colonel Robin Umberg as a member of the Board of Visitors at the U.S. Military Academy.

The President named Sheldon Datz, Sidney Drell, and Herbert York as winners of the Enrico Fermi Award, given for a lifetime of achievement in the field of nuclear energy.

The President declared a major disaster in Hawaii and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding beginning on October 28 and continuing through November 2.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period cover by this issue.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released November 6

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Jake Siewert

Released November 7

Statement by the Press Secretary on the membership of the Sharm al-Sheikh Fact Finding Committee

Released November 9

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Adviser Samuel Berger and National Economic Council Director Gene Sperling on the President's upcoming visit to the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit in Brunei and the upcoming visit to Vietnam

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Jake Siewert

Announcement: President Clinton Names Enrico Fermi Award Winners

Acts Approved by the President

Approved November 4

H.J. Res. 124 / Public Law 106–427
Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes

H.J. Res. 84 / Public Law 106–428
Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes

Approved November 6

H.R. 4811 / Public Law 106–429
Making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes

H.R. 5178 / Public Law 106–430
Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act

H.R. 468 / Public Law 106–431
Saint Helena Island National Scenic Area Act

H.R. 1725 / Public Law 106–432
Miwaleta Park Expansion Act

H.R. 3218 / Public Law 106–433
Social Security Number Confidentiality Act of 2000

H.R. 3657 / Public Law 106–434
To provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of public domain land in the San Bernardino National Forest in the State of California, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3679 / Public Law 106–435
2002 Winter Olympic Commemorative Coin Act

H.R. 4315 / Public Law 106–436
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3695 Green Road in Beachwood, Ohio, as the "Larry Small Post Office Building"

H.R. 4404 / Public Law 106–437
To permit the payment of medical expenses incurred by the United States Park Police in the performance of duty to be made directly by the National Park Service, to allow for waiver and indemnification in mutual law enforcement agreements between the National Park Service and a State or political subdivision when required by State law, and for other purposes

H.R. 4450 / Public Law 106–438
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 900 East Fayette Street in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Judge Harry Augustus Cole Post Office Building"

H.R. 4451 / Public Law 106–439
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1001 Frederick Road in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Frederick L. Dewberry, Jr. Post Office Building"

H.R. 4625 / Public Law 106–440
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2108 East 38th

Street in Erie, Pennsylvania, as the "Gertrude A. Barber Post Office Building"

H.R. 4786 / Public Law 106–441
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 110 Postal Way in Carrollton, Georgia, as the "Samuel P. Roberts Post Office Building"

H.R. 4957 / Public Law 106–442
To amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to extend the legislative authority for the Black Patriots Foundation to establish a commemorative work

H.R. 5083 / Public Law 106–443
To extend the authority of the Los Angeles Unified School District to use certain park lands in the City of South Gate, California, which were acquired with amounts provided from the land and water conservation fund, for elementary school purposes

H.R. 5157 / Public Law 106–444
Freedmen's Bureau Records Preservation Act of 2000

H.R. 5273 / Public Law 106–445
United States Mint Numismatic Coin Clarification Act of 2000

H.R. 5314 / Public Law 106–446
To amend title 10, United States Code, to facilitate the adoption of retired military working dogs by law enforcement agencies, former handlers of these dogs, and other persons capable of caring for these dogs

S. 614 / Public Law 106–447
Indian Tribal Regulatory Reform and Business Development Act of 2000

S. 2812 / Public Law 106–448
To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide a waiver of the oath of renunciation and allegiance for naturalization of aliens having certain disabilities

S. 3062 / Public Law 106–449
To modify the date on which the Mayor of the District of Columbia submits a performance accountability plan to Congress, and for other purposes

Approved November 7

H.R. 1651 / Public Law 106–450
To amend the Fishermen's Protective Act of 1967 to extend the period during which reimbursement may be provided to owners of United States fishing vessels for costs incurred when such a vessel is seized and detained by a foreign country, and for other purposes

H.R. 2442 / Public Law 106–451
Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act

H.R. 4831 / Public Law 106–452
To redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2339 North California Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Roberto Clemente Post Office"

H.R. 4853 / Public Law 106–453
To redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1568 South Green Road in South Euclid, Ohio, as the "Arnold C. D'Amico Station"

H.R. 5229 / Public Law 106–454
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 219 South Church Street in Odum, Georgia, as the "Ruth Harris Coleman Post Office Building"

S. 501 / Public Law 106–455
Glacier Bay National Park Resource Management Act of 2000

S. 503 / Public Law 106–456
Spanish Peaks Wilderness Act of 2000

S. 835 / Public Law 106–457
Estuaries and Clean Waters Act of 2000

S. 1088 / Public Law 106–458
Arizona National Forest Improvement Act of 2000

S. 1211 / Public Law 106–459
To amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to authorize additional measures to carry out the control of salinity upstream of Imperial Dam in a cost-effective manner

S. 1218 / Public Law 106–460
To direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue to the Landusky School District, without consideration, a patent for the surface

and mineral estates of certain lots, and for other purposes

S. 1275 / Public Law 106–461
Hoover Dam Miscellaneous Sales Act

S. 1586 / Public Law 106–462
Indian Land Consolidation Act Amendments of 2000

S. 2300 / Public Law 106–463
Coal Market Competition Act of 2000

S. 2719 / Public Law 106–464
Native American Business Development, Trade Promotion, and Tourism Act of 2000

S. 2950 / Public Law 106–465
Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Establishment Act of 2000

S. 3022 / Public Law 106–466
Nampa and Meridian Conveyance Act

H.R. 3646 / Private Law 106–8
For the relief of certain Persian Gulf evacuees