As we pursue these priorities, we will do so with a Government that is leaner, but not meaner, one that works efficiently, manages resources wisely, focuses on results rather than merely spending money, and provides better service to the American people.

Through the National Performance Review, led by Vice President Gore, we are making real progress in creating a Government that "works better and costs less."

We have cut the size of the Federal workforce by over 200,000 people, creating the smallest Federal workforce in 30 years, and the smallest as a share of the total workforce since before the New Deal. We are ahead of schedule to cut the workforce by 272,900 positions, as required by the 1994 Federal Workforce Restructuring Act that I signed into law.

Just as important, the Government is working better. Agencies such as the Social Security Administration, the Customs Service, and the Veterans Affairs Department are providing much better service to their customers. Across the Government, agencies are using information technology to deliver services more efficiently to more people.

We are continuing to reduce the burden of Federal regulation, ensuring that our rules serve a purpose and do not unduly burden businesses or taxpayers. We are eliminating 16,000 pages of regulations across Government, and agencies are improving their rule-making processes.

In addition, we continue to overhaul Federal procurement so that the Government can buy better products at cheaper prices from the private sector. No longer does the Government pay outrageous prices for hammers, ashtrays, and other small items that it can buy cheaper at local stores.

As I said, we plan to work more closely with States and localities, with businesses and individuals, and with Federal workers to focus our efforts on improving services for the American people. Under the Vice President's leadership, agencies are setting higher and higher standards for delivering faster and better service.

CONCLUSION

Our agenda is working. We have significantly reduced the deficit, strengthened the economy, invested in our future, and reduced the size of Government while making it work better for the American people.

Now, we have an opportunity to build on our success by balancing the budget the right way. It is an opportunity we should not miss.  

March 1996.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2151. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's Sequestration and Review Report for fiscal year 1997; pursuant to the order of August 4, 1997; referred jointly to the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2152. A communication from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 1996 Force Readiness Assessment; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2153. A communication from the Chief (Programs and Division), Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, a cost comparison study relative to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base [AFB], Arizona; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2154. A communication from the Chief (Programs and Legislation Division), Office of the Secretary of Defense, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, a cost comparison study relative to Lackland Air Force Base [AFB], Texas; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2155. A communication from the Chief (Programs and Legislation Division), Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, a cost comparison study relative to Little Rock Air Force Base [AFB], Arkansas; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2156. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bureau of Export Administration's annual report for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2157. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Rental Housing Assistance At A Crossroads"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2158. A communication from the president and chairman of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a statement regarding a transaction involving exports to Republic of the Korea; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2159. A communication from the chairman of the board of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a schedule of compensation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2160. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 1997-99, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2161. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Northwest Forest Plan; to the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2162. A communication from the Director of the Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice concerning defense articles to Laos relative to Presidential Determination 93-45; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2163. A communication from the chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 11-222 adopted by the council on February 6, 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2164. A communication from the Director of the Office of Communications of the Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 1995 annual report of the Department under the Freedom of Information Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2165. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the President's Report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2166. A communication from the General Counsel of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2167. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, the 1995 annual report of the Department under the Freedom of Information Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2168. A communication from the Archivist of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the National Archives and Records Administration during 1995; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. Hatch (for himself, Mr. Simon, Mr. Specter, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Grassley, Mr. Kohl, Mr. DeWine, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. McConnel, Mr. Johnson, Mr. D'Amato, Mr. Akaka, Mr. Bingaman, Mrs. Boxer, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Chafee, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Dodd, Mr. Inouye, Mr. Jeffords, Mrs. Kassebaum, Mr. Kerry, Mr. Levin, Mr. Lieberman, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Pell, Mr. Sarbanes, Mr. Wellstone, Mr. Harkin, Mr. Wyden, and Mr. Lautenberg):

S. 1624. A bill to reauthorize the Hate Crime Statistics Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 1625. A bill to provide for the fair consideration of professional sports franchise relocations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Specter:

S. 1626. A bill to provide for the orderly disposal of Federal lands in Southern Nevada, and for the acquisition of certain environmentally sensitive lands in Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. Hat ch (for himself, Mr. Simon, Mr. Specter, Mr. Biden, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Grassley, Mr. Kohl, Mr. DeWine, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. McConnel, Mr. Johnson, Mr. D'Amato, Mr. Akaka, Mr. Bingaman, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Chafee, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Dodd, Mr. Inouye, Mr. Jeffords, Mrs. Kassebaum, Mr. Kerry, Mr.  

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