

Oct. 27 / Administration of George Bush, 1992

the national health objectives for the year 2000. The Prevention Block Grant represents an effective means of financing activities designed to reduce the burden of disease and premature death in this country.

This legislation will also continue HHS programs to prevent lead poisoning in children. Lead poisoning is the most common and societally devastating environmental disease of young children. This program enables us to identify children who have lead levels in their blood high enough to impair

their health and to refer them to the help they need.

I am gratified to see health legislation that focuses on prevention. I applaud the cooperative effort that made it possible.

GEORGE BUSH

The White House,
October 27, 1992.

Note: H.R. 3635, approved October 27, was assigned Public Law No. 102-531.

Statement on Signing the Telecommunications Authorization Act of 1992

October 27, 1992

Today I am signing into law H.R. 6180, the "Telecommunications Authorization Act of 1992." The Act codifies authorities of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in the Department of Commerce. The Act reflects the importance to the Nation of the development of sound telecommunications and information policies.

In addition to codifying these authorities, however, the Act contains some problematic and unnecessary provisions. I have instructed the Secretary of Commerce to work with the next Congress to amend or delete these troublesome provisions. Among the provisions that are unnecessary or disruptive to the efficient Federal management of telecommunications policy are the following:

- Section 105(d), which restricts the Secretary of Commerce from reassigning any NTIA function without first reporting to specified congressional committees and waiting for 90 legislative days. This section undermines the Secretary's

ability to manage the Department effectively.

- Section 104, which will unnecessarily micromanage NTIA's responsibility for Federal use of the radio frequency spectrum by detailing specific requirements for public participation. NTIA is already meeting the laudable goal of increasing public participation in these activities.

The Act also contains provisions specifying responsibilities for the Department of Commerce in providing advice on telecommunications policies. These will be interpreted in a way that does not restrict my authority to supervise the executive branch.

GEORGE BUSH

The White House,
October 27, 1992.

Note: H.R. 6180, approved October 27, was assigned Public Law No. 102-538.