

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Labor Administration Convention July 26, 1994

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith a certified copy of the Convention (No. 150) Concerning Labor Administration: Role, Functions and Organization, adopted by the International Labor Conference at its 64th Session in Geneva on June 7, 1978.

The report of the Department of State, with a letter from the Secretary of Labor, concerning the Convention is enclosed.

As explained more fully in the enclosed letter from the Secretary of Labor, the current system of labor administration in the United States fully satisfies the requirements of Convention No.

150. Ratification of this Convention, therefore, would not require the United States to alter its law or practice in this field.

Ratification of additional International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions will enhance the ability of the United States to take other governments to task for failing to comply with the ILO instruments they have ratified. I recommend that the Senate give its advice and consent to the ratification of ILO Convention No. 150.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
July 26, 1994.

Appointment for the President's Committee on Mental Retardation July 26, 1994

The President today announced the appointment of Valerie J. Bradley to be Vice Chair of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation (PCMR) and Jane Browning, Michael Remus, Elizabeth Pittinger, and T.J. Monroe as members.

"Valerie Bradley's outstanding knowledge and commitment to the field promise a revitalization

of the committee and innovative programs for the future," the President said. "The newly announced team will contribute significantly to renew innovative and beneficial programs at PCMR."

NOTE: Biographies of the appointees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Remarks by Telephone Relay With Glenn Anderson of Gallaudet University

July 27, 1994

The President. Dr. Anderson? Good morning. I want to begin by congratulating you on your appointment as the Chair of the Gallaudet University Board of Trustees. I also want to thank you for your great career in rehabilitation work, and your earlier help to me when I served as Governor.

I'm glad we can use this telephone network today because I know what an important link it is to millions of Americans.

Go ahead.

Dr. Anderson. Good morning, Mr. President. Thank you very much for your kind words. I am very pleased to have this opportunity to speak with you this morning. Thank you for agreeing to make this relay call. Also, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your appearance at the Gallaudet University commencement last May. You inspired deaf people all over the country by your appearance and your wonderful commencement address.

Go ahead.

The President. Well, the honor was mine. I was very inspired by the students and their dreams. I also want to say how very proud I am of the strong support we have been receiving from the deaf and disabled communities on health care reform.

Go ahead.

Dr. Anderson. Great. Yes, we very much care about improving health care services, and we are so glad that you have taken the lead in advocating for health care reform.

Hopefully, you will also be able to remind health care providers of how important it is that they be sensitive to the needs of people with disabilities for health care services and for access to reasonable accommodations. I am very inspired by your hard work and will do all I can to support your efforts.

The President. Well, of course, I will be sensitive to those things. And I think you well understand that the only way we can extend those benefits and opportunities to the disabled community is to cover all Americans. If we do that, we will be able to contain costs and empower disabled Americans to work and to live to the fullest of their abilities.

Let me say, also, before we close this conversation, how pleased I am that the ADA is working and giving us things like this telephone relay system. It's a great tribute to the work that millions of disabled Americans have done.

I want to make a special note of the work that your wife, Karen, has done and the help

she gave to our campaign in 1992 and our efforts to reach out for all Americans.

Go ahead.

Dr. Anderson. Great. My wife is here with me, and she's grinning from ear to ear. She enjoyed the opportunity to serve you and work in your campaign.

I also want to say, yes, the ADA is working very well. And it will work even better in the years to come. Our conversation this morning is a living example of how well ADA is working.

Go ahead.

The President. I want to thank you again for all you have done to make the ADA work for people in their everyday lives.

It's been a real pleasure to talk with you today. One of my aides told me that your son, Jamal, and I have a picture together that you would like me to autograph. I'd be glad to do that, and I look forward to seeing you again soon.

Signing off.

Dr. Anderson. Great. Many, many thanks for this opportunity. Thank you, again, and you have a great day, too.

Bye-bye.

The President. Goodbye.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:26 a.m. from the Oval Office at the White House. The telephone conversation used a new relay service technology which allows deaf persons to communicate by telephone.

Remarks on the Fourth Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act July 27, 1994

The President. Thank you very much. It is wonderful to see this sea of Americans here at the White House today. Senator Harkin and I were back there talking, and he was beaming because he had so much to do with the ADA. And I was listening to the First Lady and to Tipper and to the Vice President give their fine speeches, and they were all so good, I was wishing I could just sit there and not have to say anything—[laughter]—enjoy the day and welcome you here.

I thank especially the Members of Congress who are here: Congressman Hoyer, Congress-

man Fish, Congressman Major Owens, and Congressman Goodling. Thank you for being here, sirs. Two who are not here because they're on the Hill working, I want to mention, Senator Kennedy and Congressman Jack Brooks who worked so hard on this. I thank former Congressman Tony Coelho who's done a magnificent job as Chair of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disability. I thank all the people who are here on this stage. And I want to say something today about the spirit of bipartisanship. I will say more later, but I would remind you that it would be wrong for