

Quality and Expansion. Its groundbreaking report set forth a blueprint for creating a 21st century Head Start and laid the foundation for the landmark legislation that we celebrate today.

This legislation seeks to re-energize the Head Start program for generations to come. Through this legislation, strong new efforts will be made to improve the quality of Head Start programs, and an important new initiative will be launched to provide Head Start services to families with children under age three. Services will be tailored to meet the needs of today's families, and creative partnerships will be forged with other key programs at the State and local level.

Head Start reminds us that our country cannot afford to waste its young or ignore their

families. We must value every child and help every parent succeed. Head Start creates the sense of community that all of us need in our lives. The dedication of thousands of volunteers, staff, and parents helps create the special relationship that defines the Head Start program. Head Start is indeed a celebration of human diversity and creativity.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
May 18, 1994.

NOTE: S. 2000, approved May 18, was assigned Public Law No. 103-252.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the Report of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting *May 18, 1994*

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (47 U.S.C. 396(i)), I transmit herewith the Annual Report of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for Fiscal Year 1993 and the Inventory of the Federal Funds Distributed to Public Telecommunications Entities by

Federal Departments and Agencies: Fiscal Year 1993.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
May 18, 1994.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the Report of the National Endowment for the Humanities *May 18, 1994*

To the Congress of the United States:

It is my pleasure to present to you the twenty-eighth annual report of National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). In terms of breadth and number of projects funded, this agency is the largest grant-making entity for the humanities in the country. The Endowment supports scholars, teachers, and students in their research and studies, and provides funds for projects such as documentary films and museum exhibitions that reach a large general audience. These humanities activities strengthen the cultural resources of the nation and provide insight into

the problems that face our increasingly complex society.

In addition to direct federal support of the humanities, NEH programs have stimulated private contributions, to date almost \$1.3 billion in matching gift funds. The Endowment also requires grantees in most programs to commit their own funds for part of the project costs. The NEH support of a project is highly respected and often attracts additional funding from other sources.

The country can be proud of the role the Endowment has played as a catalyst for the support of excellent humanities scholarship and

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education in the United States over the past twenty-eight years.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,

May 18, 1994.

Statement by the Press Secretary on Draft Registration and the Selective Service System

May 18, 1994

The President has announced that he has approved a National Security Council recommendation to maintain peacetime draft registration and the Selective Service System (SSS).

In letters to the House and Senate, the President stated that “. . . it is essential to our national security to continue draft registration and the Selective Service System. While tangible military requirements alone do not currently make a mass call-up of American young men likely, there are three reasons I believe we should maintain both the SSS and the draft registration requirement.”

First, the President stated that the SSS and registration provide “. . . a hedge against unforeseen threats and a relatively low cost ‘insurance policy’ against our underestimating the maximum level of threat we expect our Armed Forces to face.”

Next, “. . . terminating the SSS and draft registration now could send the wrong signal

to our potential enemies who are watching for signs of U.S. resolve.”

And finally, “. . . as fewer and fewer members of our society have direct military experience, it is increasingly important to maintain the link between the All Volunteer Force and our society at large. The Armed Forces must also know that the general population stands behind them, committed to serve, should the preservation of our national security so require.”

The NSC review leading to the President’s decision has been conducted since January and consisted of representatives from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the DOD Inspector General, the Joint Staff, the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Selective Service System.

The President urged Congress to support the administration fiscal year 1995 request for \$23 million for the Selective Service System.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With Military Leaders

May 19, 1994

Representative Dan Rostenkowski

Q. On Rostenkowski, sir, should the public be concerned at all that you and he have the same lawyer?

The President. No.

China

Q. Mr. President, did you send Michael Armacost to China to negotiate some kind of deal?

The President. Well, we’ve had a number of Americans in China and speaking with the Chinese, and those conversations are ongoing. And

I think until they are resolved, one way or the other, I shouldn’t say more about them.

Q. It’s being reported that you have made a decision to go ahead and renew MFN.

The President. We are still in discussions with the Chinese. I don’t know that I should call them negotiations; that’s not an accurate characterization. We are having discussions with them about our differences and about the importance of our relationship. And I will have a decision on the matter in a timely fashion. No decision has been reached yet; we’re still talking with them.