

progressed before. For solid, smart, and important reasons, the ordinary working families of America expect their elected leaders to pass health care reform:

- If we don't act, the deficit we have worked so hard to contain will balloon again over time.
- And, most important, millions of Americans still won't be able to count on coverage

when their families need it. Every month that we don't act, 100,000 more Americans will lose their coverage. They will join the 5 million Americans who lost theirs in the last 5 years.

For their sake, and for the sake of those who touched us during this great journey, we are going to keep up this fight and we will prevail.

Nomination for the Environmental Protection Agency *September 26, 1994*

The President announced today that he intends to nominate Fred Hansen to be the Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

"Through his accomplished State leadership, Fred Hansen brings real environmental expertise and commitment to this position," the President

said. "I am confident that his service at the E.P.A. will be marked by the same excellence and leadership he has shown in Oregon as a long-time environmental leader there."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Remarks Welcoming President Boris Yeltsin of Russia *September 27, 1994*

President and Mrs. Yeltsin, members of the Russian delegation, distinguished guests. On behalf of the American people, it is my great honor to welcome President Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin and Mrs. Naina Yeltsin to Washington for this state visit.

Mr. President, it wasn't so long ago that Russian-American summits were moments of high drama and sometimes disappointing results. The people of our countries and from around the world watched nervously as their leaders met in a heavy atmosphere of mutual suspicion and fear. The fate of the world seemed to hang in the balance of those encounters. And success was defined as the avoidance of confrontation or crisis.

Our moment is quite different but no less important. For these are exciting times, times of great opportunity. And we are cooperating to seize them for the good of all Russians, all Americans, and all the people of the world. Today we meet not as adversaries but as partners in the quest for a more prosperous and

a more peaceful planet. In so many areas, our interests no longer conflict, they coincide. And where we do disagree, we can discuss our differences in a climate of warm peace, not cold war.

The Russian-American relationship is at last, remarkably, a normal one, full of real accomplishments and genuine promise. Mr. President, this evolution in our relations is due in no small part to the peaceful revolution you are leading in Russia, one that the United States has fully supported. Your steadfastness and courage in the face of difficult odds have inspired millions of Americans.

And you have proved the pessimists wrong. Far from falling backward, Russia, under your leadership, is coming together and moving forward. Your efforts, of course, could not be successful if you did not have the support of a great and courageous people. Here in America, we have known the trials and tribulations of history, but the Russian people have survived invasions and wars, deprivation and dictatorship.