

Mar. 28 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1996

You're Out. These new Guidelines set forth how each public housing authority should use applicant screening and tenant eviction procedures to keep out drug dealers and other criminals who threaten the safety and the well-being of residents. These Guidelines are meant to ensure that One Strike and You're Out is effective and that it is fair.

You have advised me that HUD intends to amend its public housing performance evaluation regulations so that the overall "grade" HUD gives annually to each local housing authority will be based, in part, on how effectively it has implemented the type of applicant screening and tenant eviction policies set forth in the new Guidelines. I understand that this "grade" can affect both the amount of Federal funding a public housing authority receives and the degree

of Federal oversight to which a public housing authority will be subject.

I hereby direct you to disseminate these important new Guidelines on One Strike and You're Out to each of this Nation's public housing authorities. I also direct you to ensure that these Guidelines are made available to public housing residents, Federal and local law enforcement agencies, community leaders, and appropriate elected officials.

One Strike and You're Out is one component of comprehensive initiatives already underway to improve safety and quality of life in public housing. We will continue to work with the Congress, and with public housing authorities, residents, local officials, and law enforcement agencies, to rid our public housing of drugs, violence, and crime.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Statement on Senate Action on the Line Item Veto

March 28, 1996

I want to commend the Senate for passing legislation to give the President line item veto authority. While not a perfect bill, the conference report as passed by the Senate will give Presidents the ability to cut wasteful Government spending and special interest tax provisions.

I have advocated the line item veto for a very long time. I had the line item veto when I was Governor of Arkansas; I advocated the

line item veto when I ran for President; and I have pursued it since becoming President.

The President, no matter what party, needs the line item veto to ensure that our public resources are put to the best possible uses during these times of tight budgets. While I note that this authority does not become effective until the next Congress, I urge the House to follow the Senate's lead and pass the conference report now.

Statement on Congressional Inaction on Minimum Wage Legislation

March 28, 1996

I am disappointed that the Republican leadership has again prevented the Congress from even voting on whether to raise the minimum wage and give 10 million Americans an immediate pay increase. With every day that the Republican leadership continues to stall, the value of the minimum wage continues to fall closer and closer to a 40-year low. Some of America's greatest working heroes are the parents who are trying to raise their kids, working full time at

the minimum wage. If we value work and we value families, we ought to raise the value of the minimum wage. With the 5-year anniversary of the last minimum wage increase next Monday, now is the time to put politics aside, raise the minimum wage, and help lift the lives of millions of America's workers.