

ensure that it is the Federal Government's policy to promote food recovery and to encourage the use of voluntary efforts to assure that no wholesome food goes to waste that can economically be provided to persons in need. I hereby direct the heads of all Departments and Agencies ("agency") to ensure that their employees, contractors, grantees, State and local partners, and others understand this policy and the following guidelines.

Section 1. Policy. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the Federal Government to promote the donation of excess apparently wholesome food and apparently fit grocery products to nonprofit organizations for distribution to needy individuals to assure that no such food goes to waste that can economically be provided to persons in need.

Sec. 2. Procedures.

(a) Each Federal agency shall, to the extent practicable and permitted by law, seek to increase the quantity of excess wholesome food recovered and delivered to needy Americans from agency cafeterias, commissaries, food vendors, and other food service facilities, as well as from special events at which food is served.

(b) Each Federal agency shall seek to encourage food recovery among its contractors, subcontractors, State, local, and non-governmental partners, and grantees to ensure that they understand its importance and role in feeding needy individuals.

(c) Whenever consistent with the goals of each Federal agency's mission and programs,

each agency shall incorporate food recovery activities into those programs.

Sec. 3. Organization.

(a) There is hereby established for 5 years the interagency working group on Food Recovery to Help the Hungry charged with carrying out the policy of this memorandum and assisting agencies in complying with its purpose. The Secretary of Agriculture, or the Secretary's designee, shall chair this working group. The working group shall comprise the heads of all Federal agencies or their designees.

(b) The head of each Federal agency, as appropriate, shall appoint an employee as that agency's food recovery coordinator.

Sec. 4. Agency Authority. Nothing in this memorandum shall be construed as displacing any agency's authority or responsibilities.

Sec. 5. Judicial Review. This directive is intended only to improve the internal management of the Federal Government and is not intended to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies, its offices, or any person.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

NOTE: H.R. 2428, approved October 1, to encourage the donation of food and grocery products to nonprofit organizations for distribution to needy individuals by giving the Model Good Samaritan Food Donation Act the full force and effect of law, was assigned Public Law No. 104-210.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Jiang Zemin of China in Manila, Philippines

November 24, 1996

Q. Mr. President, you promised to raise some candid differences. What differences do you want to raise?

The President. [Inaudible]—four good meetings, we're going to have another one. Then we'll have a report.

Q. Human Rights Watch says you're making a mistake by holding the meeting. Are you?

The President. No, we're doing the right thing to have this meeting.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:35 a.m. at the Central Bank. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.