

Oct. 27 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 2000

Statement on Signing Legislation To Provide for a Plaque Commemorating Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" Speech

October 27, 2000

I am proud to sign legislation today authorizing placement of a marker commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s historic "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial. Few leaders in American history have spoken with the eloquence, passion, and moral force that Dr. King did that day, uttering words that, a generation later, still echo in our hearts.

His call to action captured the spirit of an America struggling to fulfill its promise of freedom, of a democracy yet to honor all of its

citizens. Even today, his words still inspire millions of people around the world who believe in the extraordinary power of nonviolent change to bring about social justice.

Let all who visit the Lincoln Memorial pause to reflect upon Dr. King's words and strive to make that dream real in their hearts and daily lives.

NOTE: H.R. 2879, approved October 27, was assigned Public Law No. 106-365.

Statement on Signing the Executive Order Establishing the Commission on Workers, Communities, and Economic Change in the New Economy

October 27, 2000

Today I am pleased to sign an Executive order creating a Commission on Workers, Communities, and Economic Change in the New Economy. I would like to thank Representative Ken Bentsen for his leadership in helping workers and communities adapt to the new economy and for working with my administration to form this Commission.

International trade, technology, globalization, and the changing nature of work present extraordinary new opportunities for Americans but can also create real disruptions for American workers and communities. Vice President Gore and I have worked hard to empower workers and communities to take advantage of the many

opportunities in this new economy, but there is still more we can do. This Commission will undertake a careful examination of the effectiveness of existing Federal programs to help workers and communities adjust to economic change and will identify the best practices of employers, communities, and public-private partnerships that have responded successfully to economic dislocations. The Commission's report, due next year, will help communities, employers, and workers respond to and benefit from these changes in our economy.

NOTE: The Executive order is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Statement on Signing Fiscal Year 2001 Appropriations Legislation

October 27, 2000

Today I have signed into law H.R. 4635, the "Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001" and the "Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2001."

This Act will fund vital housing, community development, environmental, disaster assistance, veterans, space, and science programs. Specifically, it provides funding for the Departments of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Housing and Urban