

and you're going to go out there and make it clear.

When I was a kid, we had a guy in my home State that tried to make a killing off the farmers because he said he could make it rain. He thought he could make it rain. People actually paid him to go up and get in a little airplane and drop pellets in the clouds, you know? And they're still waiting. *[Laughter]*

You don't want to make it rain. You want to make it clear. You want to make the Sun shine. You want to make all these issues bright and shiny and crystal and simple and direct. This is not complicated. The America people are fortunate they have two clear, very different choices; two good people who love their country and will do exactly what they intend. *[Laughter]* And this is good. I mean, we're laughing. This is a good thing.

This is about keeping the prosperity going, not putting it at risk; building on the progress, not reversing it; continuing to build one America with everything from the court appointments to the executive appointments to the advocacy of legislation; relating to the rest of the world, in-

cluding Africa and Latin America and places that have been left behind before we came along. I saw the way you responded to that with genuine seasoned judgment and wisdom and passion.

Listen, we've got a good nominee. We've got a good leader. We've got a good story to tell. Just ask people to remember what it was like 8 years ago, what it's like now. And then ask people to imagine what they want it to be 4 and 8 years from now.

Just lift people up. Get everybody to take a deep breath. Blow the clouds away. Be America's weather corps. We'll have a great celebration in 8 days.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:13 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Rev. Samuel (Billy) Kyles, pastor, Monumental Baptist Church of Memphis, TN; Carroll Willis, director, community service division, Democratic National Committee; and former Secretary of the Treasury Robert E. Rubin.

## Memorandum on a Pilot Program for Reengineering the Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Process

October 30, 2000

### *Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense*

*Subject:* Implementation of Section 1111 of H.R. 4205, the "Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001"

Today I have signed into law H.R. 4205, the "Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001." Section 1111 of this bill authorizes you to create a pilot program to resolve equal employment opportunity complaints by civilian employees of the Department of Defense that is not subject to certain procedural requirements prescribed by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). The EEOC is responsible for equal employment opportunity throughout the Government and it has longstanding expertise in this area. My Administration recently completed a major regulatory initiative to make the Federal equal employment opportunity process fairer

and more effective. To operate any pilot program that eliminates the procedural safeguards incorporated in that initiative would leave civilian employees without important means to ensure the protection of their civil rights.

For these reasons, I am directing that the following steps be taken in the implementation of this provision:

- First, you must personally approve the creation and implementation of any pilot program created under section 1111 of H.R. 4205.
- Second, you must approve the implementation of this pilot program in no more than one military department and two Defense agencies.
- Third, in order to ensure that the participation in these pilot programs by civilian employees is truly voluntary, I direct you to

ensure that the pilot programs provide that complaining parties may opt out of participation in the pilot programs at any time.

- Fourth, I direct you to submit an assessment of the pilot programs, together with the relevant underlying data, to the EEOC within 180 days of the completion of the 3-year pilot program period.

These steps will ensure that important civil rights of civilian employees of the Department of Defense are protected while preserving con-

gressional intent with regard to the creation of the pilot programs.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

NOTE: H.R. 4205, approved October 30, which incorporated the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 as an appendix, was assigned Public Law No. 106–398. This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 31. An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

## Statement on Returning Without Approval to the House of Representatives Legislative Branch, Treasury, and General Appropriations Legislation *October 30, 2000*

I am returning herewith without my approval, H.R. 4516, the Legislative Branch and the Treasury and General Appropriations Act, 2001. This bill provides funds for the legislative branch and the White House at a time when the business of the American people remains unfinished.

The Congress' continued refusal to focus on the priorities of the American people leaves me no alternative but to veto this bill. I cannot in good conscience sign a bill that funds the operations of the Congress and the White House before funding our classrooms, fixing our schools, and protecting our workers.

With the largest student enrollment in history, we need a budget that will allow us to repair and modernize crumbling schools, reduce class size, hire more and better trained teachers, ex-

pand after-school programs, and strengthen accountability to turn around failing schools.

I would sign this legislation in the context of a budget that puts the interests of the American people before self-interest or special interests. I urge the Congress to get its priorities in order and send me, without further delay, balanced legislation I can sign.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,  
October 30, 2000.

NOTE: This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 31. An original was not available for verification of the content of this statement.

## Remarks on the Veto of Legislative Branch, Treasury, and General Appropriations Legislation and an Exchange With Reporters *October 31, 2000*

*The President.* Good morning—or good afternoon. We are now a full month past the end of the fiscal year and just a week before election day. Congress still hasn't finished its work. There is still no education budget. There is still no increase in the minimum wage, still no Patients' Bill of Rights or hate crimes bill or mean-

ingful tax relief for middle class Americans, even though all these measures have strong bipartisan support in the country and in the Congress.

Today I want to talk about an appropriations bill the Congress did pass. The Treasury/Postal bill funds these two departments, as well as the operations of Congress and the White