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Current Status	None
User Name	dbarrie
Status Date	2010-09-29
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Notes	Transferred to FE002-01

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<u>No.</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>User</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Notes</u>
1	None	2010-09-29	dbarrie		Transferred to FE002-01

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

FE 002

DATE RECEIVED: JUNE 09, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. EUGENIO BAYRON

SUBJECT: REQUESTS PROCLAMATION FOR THE SANTA CLARA
VALLEY MASONIC OFFICERS ASSOCIATION PROGRAM
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE CONSTITUTION ON SEP 19
87

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
LINDA WATSON	ORG	87/06/09		<u>A</u> 87/09/19 ⁰⁹ TR
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS:

Exterrenal msg sent 9/9 - lid TR

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____
MAIL USER CODES: (A) MESS870919 (B) _____ (C) _____

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                        *                        *CORRESPONDENCE:   *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL    *                OF SIGNER *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED          *                CODE = A   *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED          *COMPLETED = DATE OF    *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                        *                OUTGOING *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                        *                        *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                        *                        *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                        *                        *
*****

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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

31
Observation
493847
Sept 19 1987
THE UNITED STATES
CONSTITUTION OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE
SANTA CLARA VALLEY
Sept. 19

May 25, 1987

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
C/O THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ATTN: SECRETARY FOR THE PRESIDENT

NO
CNC
Dear Miss Secretary:

The SANTA CLARA VALLEY MASONIC OFFICERS ASSOCIATION of the South Bay Area is observing our annual observation of the great CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES and we would hold it in great esteem if the President of the United States would help us in making this observance a great success by either issuing a Proclamation or even a letter acknowledging our program. His Proclamation or letter, with the Presidential Seal, will be framed and enshrined in our Masonic Temple in San Jose, California.

His constituents in this area would consider it an honor if this could be done and would be the "icing on the cake" to make our program complete. I am fully aware that our President is a very busy man and that my request minute, but we will never see a Bi-Centennial of this magnitude again.

Our program is being held on September 19, 1987, at the San Jose Scottish Rite Temple, 2455 Masonic Drive, San Jose, Ca. 95125. We will have incorporating our program to include all sectors of our Community; Public, Political, Clergy and Military. It has the support of the five major T.V. stations, 16 Radio stations and local newspapers in our area, in addition to our other Masonic affiliates.

I have enclosed samples of proclamations that could be utilized or leave it to the President's discretion or staff to draft something similar. Your reply would greatly be appreciated. Could this be possible?

Sincerely,

Eugenio Bayron

Eugenio "Gene" Bayron, Chairman
SANTA CLARA VALLEY MASONIC ASSN.
2171 McLaughlin Ave. #3
San Jose, Ca. 95122
(408) 294-9440

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JUNE 23, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. TOM BALLARD JR.

SUBJECT: ENCLOSURES "CHARTERS OF FREEDOM" POSTERS HE
CREATED FOR THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE CONSTITUTION
REQUESTS THEY BE SIGNED BY PRES, VP,
WH STAFF, CABINET, HOUSE & SENATE, JUSTICES

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:		ACT	DATE	TYPE	C COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D YY/MM/DD
HOWARD BAKER		ORG	87/06/23	SW	87/07/15 AB
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

CS MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	*OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	*CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		*OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY *			*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

July 15, 1987

Dear Mr. Ballard:

Thank you for your letter to Senator Baker informing him of your involvement in the State of Kentucky's planned celebration of the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution. He appreciates your interest in writing about your project, but it will not be possible to comply with your request for autographs. I hope you will understand.

With Senator Baker's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Tom Ballard, Jr.
3312 Dayton Avenue
Louisville, KY 40207

SW/LRC/CAD/AVH/jz 7HHBA ✓

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB
Enclosure: return writer's constitution poster

Dear Mr. Ballard:

Thank you for your letter to Senator Baker informing him ~~about~~ ^{of your involvement in the} Kentucky's ^{State of} celebration ^{planned} for the United States Constitution. He appreciates your interest in writing about your project, but it will not be possible to comply with your request for autographs. I hope you will understand.

With Senator Baker's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup

of the Bicentennial of

Enclosure: return writer's constitution poster

SW/lrc/

can / Or

495945

Louisville, Kentucky
June 17, 1937

Senator Howard Baker
Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C., 20500

Dear Senator Baker:

For some time I have been involved in the Kentucky Bicentennial Celebration of our United States Constitution, mainly because my hobby is calligraphy art. Betty Seay, the Director of the United States Constitution Celebration Project in Kentucky encouraged me to create something that would promote interest in the celebration. So basically what I have is the "Charters of Freedom" in poster type document form, designed to invite citizen participation by personally affirming, with their signatures, the wisdom of our Founding Fathers.

On several occasions during the past many months, I have displayed these posters in public areas, and during symposiums held in Kentucky regarding the Constitutional Celebration, inviting both young and old to "sign" the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, or the Declaration of Independence - - or all three, if they so desired. My efforts have been continuously rewarded by observing the obvious feelings of personal involvement with these great documents shown by the many citizens who, with much care, and often much consideration, affixed their signatures.

Would it be possible for the President, Vice President, The Cabinet, the White House Staff, Supreme Court Justices, and members of the Senate and the House of Representatives all to sign the enclosed set of posters of the "Charters of Freedom" as part of the Bicentennial Celebration? The documents could be used thereafter for whatever purpose would be deemed appropriate.

I thank you for your attention.

Respectfully,

Tom Ballard Jr.

TOM BALLARD, JR.
3312 Dayton Avenue
Louisville, Kentucky 40207
(502)895-2508

TCB/c
(3) Enc.

ID # 500667 **CU**
FE002

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- ☐ O - OUTGOING
☐ H - INTERNAL
☐ I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1

Name of Correspondent: David Rager

☐ MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: 1st. Col. North's Fifth Amendment protection

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>Cuhole</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>87105108</u>		<u>C8710727</u>
<u>cust 27</u>	Referral Note: <u>D</u>	<u>87105112</u>		<u>C8710727</u>
<u>Cuculo</u>	Referral Note: <u>S</u>	<u>8710727</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>A8710727</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>
	Referral Note:			

ACTION CODES:

A - Appropriate Action
C - Comment/Recommendation
D - Draft Response
F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure

I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
R - Direct Reply w/Copy
S - For Signature
X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

A - Answered
B - Non-Special Referral
C - Completed
S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOb).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

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CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: L Individual Codes: 4640 _____

Prime Subject Code: FE 002 Secondary Subject Codes: ND 007 _____
HU _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C		Time: _____	P- _____
DSP		Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

CPn - Presidential Correspondence
 n - 0 - Unknown
 n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
 n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
 n - 3 - Ron
 n - 4 - Dutch
 n - 5 - Ron Reagan
 n - 6 - Ronald
 n - 7 - Ronnie

CLn - First Lady's Correspondence
 n - 0 - Unknown
 n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
 n - 2 - Nancy
 n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence
 n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
 n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

B - Box/package
 C - Copy
 D - Official document
 G - Message
 H - Handcarried
 L - Letter
 M - Mailgram
 O - Memo
 P - Photo
 R - Report
 S - Sealed
 T - Telegram
 V - Telephone
 X - Miscellaneous
 Y - Study

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 27, 1987

ABC:ACR:nge
ABCulvahouse
ACRaul
Chron

Dear Mr. Langer:

Thank you for your letter to the President regarding Lt. Col. Oliver L. North's Fifth Amendment rights. As you know, Col. North has now testified before the Congressional Select Committees investigating the Iran/Contra matter, but we appreciate your bringing your perspective on this subject to our attention.

Sincerely,
Original Signed by ABC

Arthur B. Culvahouse, Jr.
Counsel to the President

David Langer, Esq.
153 Dunham Place
Woodbridge, NJ 07095

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 27, 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR ARTHUR B. CULVAHOUSE, JR.

FROM:

ALAN CHARLES RAUL 

SUBJECT:

David Langer - Writes Regarding Lt. Col. Oliver
North's Fifth Amendment Protection

Attached for your review and signature is a letter responding to Mr. Langer.

Attachment

11
Culverhouse
April 29, 1987

The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It is widely believed that Lt. Col. North cannot be compelled to testify against himself. But there are two legal principles of voluntary statements and military regulations which caused him to lose his Fifth Amendment protection.

The first principle is that a voluntary statement is admissible, because the Fifth Amendment bars compelled self-incrimination. The landmark Miranda case, 384 US 436, and US v. Washington, 437 US 181.

Moreover, a voluntary statement permits inquiring further for the relevant details of the disclosure. Rogers v. US, 340 US 367, and US v. Riche, 549 Fed 1088, illustrate the important details that can be elicited from a voluntary statement.

Many voluntary statements by North appeared in news reports and the Tower Commission Report, including a two day interview of North by Atty Gen Meese, after which North was fired; statements to McFarlane and Poindexter, his supervisors, and to others; his computer messages and office notes. These statements are in the three areas that concern the Congressional Investigating

1981 MAY -9 6M 2:21

1987 MAY -8 PM 5:57

Page Two

Committees whose purpose is to draft corrective legislation to prevent a similar recurrence: covert arms sales to Iran; diversion of sales profits and collecting of private funds for secretly supplying banned military equipment to the contras; and who authorized and knew of these activities. He told Meese, for example, that the President had authorized his actions; and that he reported everything he did to Poindexter.

The legal doors are therefore wide open for the Committees to get North's testimony on these subjects without immunity on the basis of the first principle. They can determine from his non-exempt testimony and from immunized witnesses who were close to him, such as Poindexter, his secretary and colleagues and from records at the hearings whether they have enough information to accomplish their legislative purpose. If they have enough, they will have done their job without an unnecessary immunity. This is especially desirable in the case of North, who has been pictured as the principal actor in the operation, organization and coordination of this affair.

The second principle is that military necessity in a military regulation overrides the constitutional protection of military personnel. Examples of this, and the rationale, are found in the recent "Yarmulke" case, *Goldman v. Weinberger*, 106 S Ct 1310, and *Culver v. Secretary of the Air Force*, 559 F 2d 622.

Page Three

Examples of military regulations requiring accounting and reporting by military personnel which were upheld despite claims of self-incrimination are: US v. MacDonald, AFMR, 14 MJ 615; Kauffman v. Secretary of the Air Force, 415 F 2d 911; and US v. Jones, CGCMR, 4 MJ 589.

This principle enables the Defense Department to constitutionally compel North to testify against himself.

The General Counsel of the Defense Department reached the opposite conclusion in a legal opinion submitted to the Tower Commission on behalf of the President; "Military personnel are protected against compelled self-incrimination by the Fifth Amendment and -- the UCMJ" (Tower Commission Report, pages 517-518, paperback edition). But the courts-martial cases he cites involve military orders, which are inapplicable to military regulations which, we have seen, do not protect military personnel against compelled self-incrimination. His further opinion that North would receive defacto immunity from his testimony by obeying an unconstitutional order to report and account for his conduct is contrary to the military regulation

cases cited above which held the regulations to be constitutional and which were successfully prosecuted by his own office. His citation of five Supreme Court cases as to

"servicemembers" relates to civilians and not military regulations.

This principle of military necessity and accountability for obeying military regulations enables the Defense Department to preserve its integrity and control and the integrity of its personnel by directing North - an active military officer - to account for and report what he did and knew in the Iran-contra affair pursuant to an appropriate regulation. A failure to do so would subject him to court martial, as would a violation of a regulation or law revealed in his report. This is the quickest, most direct, least expensive and routine military way to get his full story, which is consistent with the Fifth Amendment: and with the expressed desire of the President and Defense Secretary that North tell all without violating his Fifth Amendment right.

A possible immunity to North by the Congressional Committees would be legally irrelevant to the Defense Department, since its gets its information directly from North under constitutional right independently of his Congressionally immunized testimony. Conversely, information obtained by the Defense Department from North can legally be used by the Congressional Committees and Walsh, since it is not based on immune testimony.

Thus, the Congressional Committees and the Defense Department can separately compel North to testify before them without immunity.

Sincerely,
David Langer
DAVID LANGER
153 Dunham Place
Woodbridge, NJ 07095
(201)634-4768

M

DAVID LANGER
SUPERVISING ATTORNEY
New York City Transit Authority

RETIRED

370 JAY STREET
BROOKLYN, N. Y. 11201
PHONE: 212-852-5000

JOHN G. DE ROOS
GENERAL COUNSEL

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FECC 2

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 03, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE CARL LEVIN

SUBJECT: ENCLOSURES COPY OF REQUEST FROM ROBERT
KACHADOURIAN OF BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN
REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF A STUDENT FROM
THE HAVILAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WATERFORD,

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
WILLIAM BALL		ORG	87/08/03	WBA 87/08/03	
19 Comm on Bicentennial	REFERRAL NOTE:	A	87/08/12		
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: * MICHIGAN TO JOIN THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS
NATIONWIDE BROADCAST IN HONOR OF THE
BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS FOR THE
CONSTITUTION

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1210 _____
MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	*OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	*CODE = A	*
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*S-FOR-SIGNATURE	*	*	*
*X-INTERIM REPLY	*	*	*

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(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

August 7, 1987

Dear Senator Levin:

Thank you for your letter of July 31 enclosing correspondence from your constituent, Mr. Robert Kachadourian, who suggests that the Haviland Elementary School send a student to Washington to recite the Pledge of Allegiance with the President on bicentennial day.

We appreciate being advised of your interest in this matter. In an effort to be of assistance, we have shared your letter with the Commission on the Bicentennial where I am confident your constituent's request will be given every consideration.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

William L. Ball, III
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Carl Levin
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

WLB:KRJ:JWR:jwr
cc: w/copy of inc to Commission on the
Bicentennial, 736 Jackson Place,
Washington, D.C. 20503 -- for app. action

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 31, 1987

Mr. William Ball, III
Assistant to the President for
Legislative Affairs
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Ball:

I have received a letter from a Michigan constituent requesting the opportunity to represent schools nationwide during President Reagan's broadcast in honor of the bicentennial celebrations. Enclosed is a copy of the letter.

I pass this suggestion on to you, and hope you give it every consideration.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Carl Levin

Carl Levin

CL/dmg
Enclosure

*We the People 200
Bourse BLDg
Suite 565
Independence Mall East
Phil PA 19106*

Commission on the Bicentennial

*Carol McCain
215-597-0450*

*Bicentennial in the
818. Carter Ave 244
20036
WT*

872-1787

*736 JACKSON PLACE NW
WASH
20503*

July 23, 1981

Bloomfield Hills,
MI. 4801.

Dear Sir:

As we celebrate the bi-centennial of our Constitution with a nationwide broadcast by President Reagan leading the children in the Pledge of Allegiance, would it be possible for Haviland Elementary School of Watertford, Michigan to exemplify all the schools in the U.S.A. on that day.

Could a student or perhaps two go to Washington, D.C., on that day to help President Reagan? Or could he come to our school?

It would be a time to remember for all as we enter the third century of this precious document.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

cc: Sen. Riegle, Sen. Levin
Rep. Carr, Sec. Bennett,
Rep. Trim, Supt. of Michigan
Educational Dept.

Respectfully,
Robert Kachadourian

[illegible]

ID # 509408

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FE002

☐ O - OUTGOING☐ H - INTERNAL☒ I - INCOMINGDate Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD) 87108120Name of Correspondent: Mary Louise Lemmon☐ MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Requests Pres. Proclamation for
Lagonda Chapter of D.A.R. to commemorate
the Bicentennial of the Northwest Ordinance
& Constitution of U.S.

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
CM Gris	ORIGINATOR	87,08,20		C 87,08,20
PL Anderson	A	87,08,24		C 87,09,04
PM WATS	A	87,09,04		C 87,09,04

ACTION CODES:

A - Appropriate Action
C - Comment/Recommendation
D - Draft Response
F - Furnish Fact Sheet
to be used as Enclosure

I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
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B - Non-Special Referral
C - Completed
S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: How about a message ^{TR}
Citizenship Day & Constitution Week 1987 proc and
Northwest Ordinance Bicentennial May 1987 proc sent 9/4
led

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.

Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).

Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.

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RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: _____ Individual Codes: _____

Prime Subject Code: _____ Secondary Subject Codes: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C _____	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
DSP _____	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

CPn - Presidential Correspondence
 n - 0 - Unknown
 n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
 n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
 n - 3 - Ron
 n - 4 - Dutch
 n - 5 - Ron Reagan
 n - 6 - Ronald
 n - 7 - Ronnie

CLn - First Lady's Correspondence
 n - 0 - Unknown
 n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
 n - 2 - Nancy
 n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence
 n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
 n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

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 D - Official document
 G - Message
 H - Handcarried
 L - Letter
 M - Mailgram
 O - Memo
 P - Photo
 R - Report
 S - Sealed
 T - Telegram
 V - Telephone
 X - Miscellaneous
 Y - Study

FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mrs. Floyd O. Lemmon
Daughters of the American
Revolution, Lagonda Chapter
1311 West Main Street
Springfield, OH 45504

8709 4

Northwest Ordinance Bicentennial Day, 1987

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On July 13, we celebrate the Bicentennial of the Northwest Ordinance, considered one of the foundation documents of our Nation because it became a model for the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and because of its significance for the expansion of the Union.

The Confederation Congress adopted the Northwest Ordinance at the same time the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia was drafting the new United States Constitution. The Ordinance embodied the highest ideals of a free people; its principles of civil liberty and its blueprint for national expansion so impressed the delegates to the Constitutional Convention that it became an important influence on the Constitution they were writing.

The Ordinance's arrangement for expansion included opening settlement of the area known as the Northwest Territory, providing civil government, and ensuring settlers the protection of Common Law under territorial government until permanent State governments could be created. States formed from the Territory—present-day Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota—would be organized and admitted into the Union "on an equal footing with the original States, in all respects whatsoever."

The Northwest Ordinance was vitally important for individual and civil rights in the United States. It forbade slavery in the Territory and guaranteed all citizens equality before the law. The Ordinance provided complete freedom of religion, the writ of habeas corpus, trial by jury, proportionate representation in the legislature, reasonable bail, no cruel or unusual punishment, and no deprivation of liberty or property but by the judgment of peers. The Ordinance also required full compensation for property or services taken for the common preservation and, in the just preservation of rights and property, forbade interference with bona fide private contracts and engagements.

Finally, the Northwest Ordinance recognized that religion, morality, and knowledge are all necessary elements for good government. It proclaimed that schools and the means of education would forever be encouraged to ensure the establishment of good government throughout the Territory.

In recognition of the importance of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 181, has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the Bicentennial of the enactment of this law.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim July 13, 1987, as Northwest Ordinance Bicentennial Day. I urge the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities and to reflect on the role of the Northwest Ordinance in the

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: 9/4

TO:

Linda Watson

FROM:

Carol Hornby
Associate Director
Office of Public Liaison
Room 197 OEOB, Ext. 6585

The attached is for your:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information | <input type="checkbox"/> Review & Comment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Response | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Signature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> File | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please Return By | |

Comments:

message would
be fine



Daughters of the American Revolution
Lagonda Chapter
1311 W. Main Street
Springfield, Ohio 45504

509408

August 10, 1987

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
Dear Mr. President:

On September 19, at noon, the Clark County, Ohio, Commission to celebrate the Bicentennial of the Northwest Ordinance and the Constitution of the United States will be observing "Constitution Week" with a gathering of Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Members of D.F.W., the American Legion, representatives of City & County schools as well as local government and other dignitaries.

It will be the most important Constitution Week program ever, and a recognition from you would make it so.

We need the favor of a Presidential Proclamation to make it really special.

Two years ago you sent a beautiful Proclamation, an official one, mounted in blue, and we proudly send it as the focal point in our Constitution Week display in that year's program. Would you please make it possible to have that pleasant honor again?

Thank you, President Reagan for your stand against abortion, and your support of the Neaagers who are sacrificing so much to regain their freedom. Please support those of us who reject the idea of a Constitutional Convention.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Simon
(Mrs. Floyd O. Simon)

Please send the Proclamation
to the above address.

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FE002

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 24, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. GLENN BRODIE

SUBJECT: REQUESTS PRESIDENTIAL LETTER FOR THE FREEDOM
SHRINE AT HILTON HEAD HIGH SCHOOL BY THE
EXCHANGE CLUB OF HILTON HEAD IN HONOR OF 200
ANNIVERSARY OF CONSTITUTION; NO DATE GIVEN

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
LINDA WATSON		ORG	87/08/24		<i>A</i> 87/08/24 <i>0909</i> TR
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
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REFERRAL NOTE:					

COMMENTS: *External msg recd 9/9 - lsd* **TR**

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

MAIL USER CODES: (A) MESS870824 (B) _____ (C) _____

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	*OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	*CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		*OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY			*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date:

8/21/87

TO:

Special Messages

The attached is for
an adult group seeking
recognition for their good
works w/ youth and the
general community. Perhaps
a copy of your letter on
the Bicentennial + another
message done by

FROM: CONNIE MACKEY

Presidential Correspondence -

Children's Unit

Room 435, Extension 7734 or 7735

S.H.

C.



EXCHANGE CLUB

OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND

P.O. Box 5314
Hilton Head Island,
South Carolina 29938

August 13, 1987

Ms. Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to The President
Room 94
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20006-0000

Dear Ms. Higgins:

The nationally chartered Exchange Club of Hilton Head is donating a Freedom Shrine to the Hilton Head High School in honor of the 200th anniversary of the Constitution.

The Freedom Shrine is a project of Exchange Clubs all across America. It is a 15 foot long display of exact replicas of documents which helped to forge this nation including, the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Gettysburg Address and others.

It is our hope that by having the opportunity to actually see these historic documents, the children of our area will develop a greater appreciation of America's roots.

We would very much like to include a letter from President Reagan as a permanent part of the display. The letter would dedicate the Freedom Shrine to the Hilton Head High School on the Constitution's 200th anniversary, and would act to congratulate the Exchange Club of Hilton Head for their continuing work in the areas of Americanism, Youth and Public Service Programs.

I appreciate your assistance in this important dedication, and look forward to the President's letter.

If I can answer any questions you may have on this matter, please do not hesitate to call my office at (803) 686-4911.

Sincerely,

Glenn Brodie
President

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 510710

FE002

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 27, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ROBERT P. CASEY

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING THE UPCOMING CELEBRATION OF
THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSTITUTION IN
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JUDY BLACK		ORG	87/08/27	JAB	87/10/02
file	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2100

IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	*OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	*CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		*OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY *			*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
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KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 9, 1987

Dear Governor Casey:

On behalf of the President, thank you for your letter bearing the first day issue of the Pennsylvania Commemorative Postage Stamp.

Please be advised that I will bring your letter to the personal attention of the President.

If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Judy A. Black".

Judy A. Black
Special Assistant to the President
for Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable Robert P. Casey
Governor of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HARRISBURG

August 26, 1987

THE GOVERNOR

Honorable Ronald W. Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It gives me great pleasure to write this letter bearing the first day issue of the Pennsylvania Commemorative Postage Stamp.

In this year when America celebrates the bicentennial of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, we are proud to recall that it was right here, a hundred years before the Constitution, that William Penn founded our "holy experiment" based on the ideals of representative government, religious tolerance and ethnic diversity. The same ideals created a nation and have inspired free people everywhere.

Now, two hundred years later, Pennsylvania retains its historic commitment to diversity and tolerance, to economic opportunity and civil rights for all our citizens. That is what this year's constitutional bicentennial is meant to celebrate. The genius of those who met in the building pictured on this commemorative stamp was their ability to frame a system equal not only to the needs of their own time, but to the challenges of an unknown future. The greatness of the constitution is not simply that it has endured, but that it has continued to evolve. The work of extending and safeguarding its rights and guarantees must continue in our own day, and for the next two hundred years.

We look forward to welcoming you to Independence Hall in September to celebrate our shared legacy as a state and as a nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert P. Casey".
Robert P. Casey
Governor

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 08, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MRS. GLEN E. SMITH

SUBJECT: REQUESTS PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION AND
PHOTOGRAPH IN RECOGNITION OF THE BICENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FE002

Sept 13

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
LINDA WATSON		ORG	87/09/08		A	87/09/08
REFERRAL NOTE: _____						
REFERRAL NOTE: _____						
REFERRAL NOTE: _____						
REFERRAL NOTE: _____						
REFERRAL NOTE: _____						

COMMENTS:

Bicentennial message sent 9/11/87

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

MAIL USER CODES: (A) MESS870908 (B) _____ (C) _____

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
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*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	*OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	*CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		*OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY *			*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

511128 4



REGENTS COUNCIL OF GREATER MIAMI
NATIONAL SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

August 25, 1987

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

In this special year of the Bicentennial Celebration of the Constitution of the United States of America, we would very much appreciate your issuance of a Proclamation setting aside the week of September 17 (September 13 through 19, 1987) in celebration of our Constitution. We would also like to have a portrait of our President for display with the Proclamation. Please send these items to my address below.

As in past years, we thank you and appreciate your most gracious compliance with our request.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Smith

Shirley M. Smith (Mrs. Glen E.)
President, Regents Council
8340 S.W. 141st Street
Miami, FL 33158

Sept 13-19
Pres. Messages

Bicentennial Proc
Photo

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 511371

FE002
Ken Cribb
for draft
response

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 19, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MS. ELAINE DONNELLY

SUBJECT: CON VIEWS ON CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
HOWARD BAKER		ORG	87/08/19		C 87/08/21
<i>COCAMA</i>	REFERRAL NOTE:				
<i>PDCRIB</i>	REFERRAL NOTE:	A	87/08/21		C 88/01/11
	REFERRAL NOTE:	D	87/08/21		C 88/10/05
	REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Ken Cribb respond directly</i>				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS:

MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES:

CS MAIL

USER CODES: (A)

(B)

(C)

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	*OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	*CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		*OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY *			*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75,OEOb) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 5, 1988

Dear Ms. Donnelly:

In the context of recent discussions regarding a balanced budget amendment, Howard Baker shared with me your letter regarding possible constitutional conventions. Senator Baker and I agree that the concerns you expressed on behalf of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan are certainly valid: a constitutional convention would entail certain risks.

While the President has expressed his intention "to take the case directly to State legislatures," should Congress fail to address the question of a balanced budget amendment on its own, he has, nonetheless, not actively campaigned for a constitutional convention.

The continued hope of this Administration is that Congress will face up to its fiscal responsibilities, as the American people so clearly wish it to do, and eliminate the need for a convention.

On behalf of the President and Senator Baker, I have the pleasure of extending to you and your organization his best wishes.

Sincerely,



T. Kenneth Cribb, Jr.
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Affairs

Ms. Elaine Donnelly
Legislative Chairman
Republican Women's Federation
of Michigan
17525 Fairway
Livonia, MI 48152



511371

Republican Women's Federation of Michigan

founded in 1925

17525 Fairway
Livonia, Michigan 48152
August 13, 1987

The Hon. Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
Washington D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Baker:

This letter is addressed to you on behalf of the Board of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan, on which I serve as Legislative Chairman.

Mr. Baker, those of us who don't wish to see the President associated with a losing cause are very disappointed to see Mr. Reagan constantly mentioning, and appearing to endorse, the unwise and unacceptable campaign to get 34 states to call for a constitutional convention (Con-Con).

Recent attempts by the proponents of a Con-Con to directly involve the President in their fundraising campaigns and their game of constitutional brinkmanship are deeply resented by Republicans whose concerns for the American constitution are far stronger than our usual inclination to follow the President's lead.

Contrary to impression left by the pro Con-Con fundraising letters (I received yet another one last week, copy enclosed) Michigan's House bill calling for a constitutional convention was soundly canned last month. There is no way that those of us who care about the Constitution will allow such a bill to pass in Michigan, or any other state for that matter.

Mr. Baker, the opposition to the Con-Con campaign is bi-partisan, and growing stronger across the country. Members of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan worked hard to defeat the Con-Con bill in 1985, and we were pleased to see a Republican woman legislator, Rep. Shirley Johnson successfully move to dispose of the bill on an unequivocal 20-4 vote of the Appropriations Committee on June 17.

In Michigan, many Republicans were appalled by the irresponsible tactics that were used in 1985 by the coalition pushing for the Con-Con call, and we don't understand why the President would want to align himself with a campaign like this. I have enclosed some news clippings and Republican Rep. Dick Allen's testimony before the Montana Legislature that describe the tactics used by balanced budget amendment proponents who refused to admit the risks involved with the call for a Con-Con. (The Montana Senate defeated the Con-Con bill this year by a vote of 45-4).

Mr. Baker, as Republicans, we support the goal of a balanced budget amendment to limit federal spending without raising taxes, but even that worthy goal does not justify a high stakes poker game in which the U. S. Constitution is used as a bargaining chip.

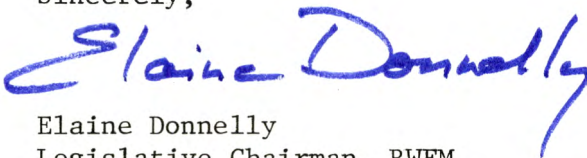
We are deeply concerned by former Chief Justice Warren Burger's comment here in Detroit last January that "That there is no way to put a muzzle on a constitutional constitution."

The President has saluted the 32 states that have called for a constitutional convention, but so has the ultra-liberal writer Gore Vidal. In a recent article entitled "Refreshing the Tree of Liberty," Vidal wrote "When two states vote in favor, such a convention will be unavoidable. It is a nice irony that the far right--disguised as conservatives--can take credit for so fundamental and radical an upheaval...they have set in motion the great engine that will overthrow the very Constitution that they insist be so strictly constructed..."

It's too bad, Mr. Baker, that the President's August 12 speech was spoiled by his reference to the campaign for a constitutional convention. We sincerely hope that the President will reconsider, and back away from this losing cause.

We regret this disagreement with the President, but nevertheless extend our best wishes to the President for success on other issues.

Sincerely,



Elaine Donnelly
Legislative Chairman, RWFM

CC: Mrs. Irene Mitchell
President, Michigan RWFM

P.S. In his speech, the President said that if Congress fails to act on a Balanced Budget Amendment, the voice of the people (in calling for a constitutional convention) will grow stronger.

I am not aware of any evidence whatsoever that the American people favor such a convention--nor is there any evidence that the American people even know that Congress would have no choice but to convene such a convention if only two more states call for it. Please note that even though NTU President Jim Davidson has repeatedly admitted that he personally favors a Con-Con, his organization has consistently and dishonestly tried to mislead the people by deliberately omitting any mention of the Con-Con is their advertising aimed at Michigan legislators who refused to vote their way.

Refreshing the Tree of Liberty

Gore Vidal
END PAPER

We are being urged to celebrate our Constitution's 200th anniversary. I see nothing at all to celebrate. Rather, let us save our platitudes, our gleaming tautologies, for 1991, when the Bill of Rights will have its bicentennial. Those 10 amendments are forever worthy of celebration, as opposed to the peculiar and dismal document to which they were so sublimely attached. Although I am not entirely persuaded that a written constitution is a good idea, I am entirely opposed to the current bit of patchwork that provides us with so much injustice and civic corruption at home and mindless imperial aggression abroad.

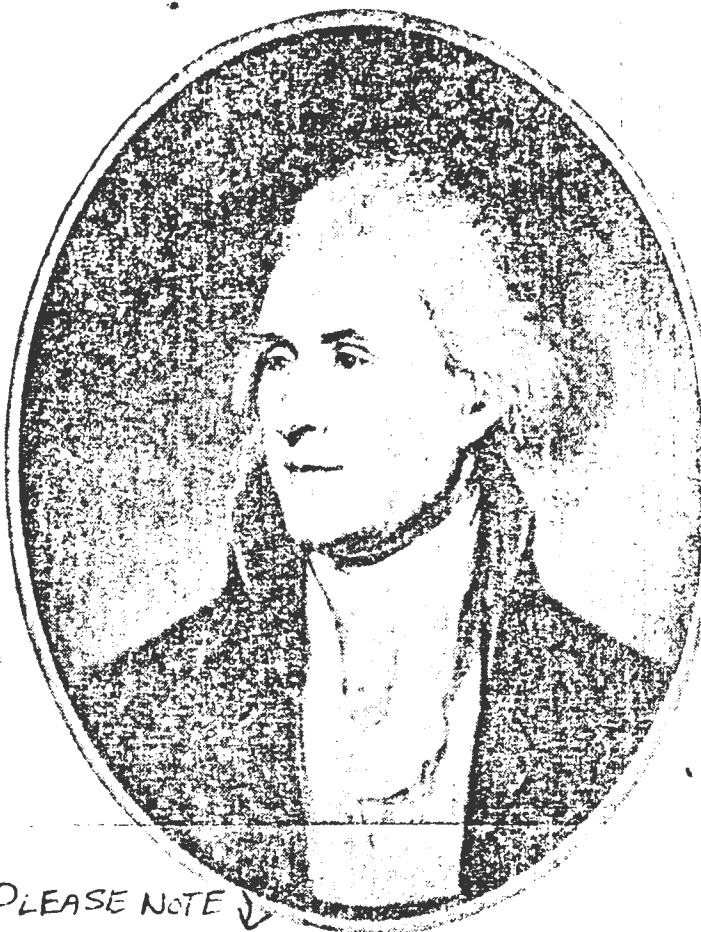
Lately, the residents of the White House have taken to chattering about "the jurisprudence of original intent." Apparently, nothing that was not intended by the original inventors of the Constitution should ever become law. This is gorgeous nonsense, since no one knows what, precisely, any of those well-to-do 55 white men originally intended. All that we do know is that they cobble together a federal system that none regarded as sacred or, in some cases, even much good. Thomas Jefferson was safely out of the country when the essentially Tory Constitution was hammered out. He was so little enthusiastic with the result that he proposed a new convention every generation on the ground that "We might as well require a man to wear still the coat which fitted him as a boy, as a civilized society to remain ever under the regimen of their barbarous ancestors."

Poor Jefferson was a spiritual Darwinian. Little did he foresee that 200 years later we, his heirs, would be the barbarians and he a sad, civilized, unheeded voice from the past, while a barbarous stone effigy of him defaces what was once a decent Dakota mountainside. The only thing that he got straight was that each generation would need to alter its institutions, while guarding its "inalienable" rights. Two centuries later, we maintain reverently our rotted institutions while addressing ourselves with ever greater ingenuity to the destruction of the Bill of Rights.

As I do not come from law or academe, I feel obliged to make one reference to a predecessor in my field, as they say. Sixty years ago an American novelist wrote, "There is nothing like a Revolution for making people conservative; that is one of the reasons why, for instance, our Constitution, the child of Revolution, is the most conservative in history." This is somewhat hyperbolic — ours was not much of a revolution, and Athens' constitution, as described by Aristotle, is more conservative than ours — even so, Edith Wharton got it about right.

What to do? I am one of the few people outside an institution who would like to see a new constitutional convention. To date, 32 state legislatures have voted in favor of such a convention. When another two states vote in favor, such a convention will be unavoidable. It is a

Gore Vidal wrote this article, adapted from a speech he delivered at Oregon State University, for the Los Angeles Times. Gore Vidal's latest novels 'Empire.'



PLEASE NOTE ↓

nice irony that the far right — disguised as conservatives — can take credit for so fundamental and radical an upheaval. In order to balance the budget by law, to put prayer to God and Mammon in the schools, to forbid abortion, pornography and drugs, each itemized in a Bill of Wrongs, they have set in motion the great engine that will overthrow the very Constitution that they insist be so strictly constructed, as originally intended by men they know nothing at all about in the light of world history of which they are so proudly ignorant. But then if you want fundamental and astounding change in the United States, look to those who call themselves conservative. If you want to keep the status quo as inviolate as, let us say, academic tenure, look to the liberals. As I am neither liberal nor conservative, I can view with a certain serenity the restructuring of our political institutions.

The first objection to a new convention is the *how* of it. Where will it convene and under what auspices? Who will be eligible to attend? Can it be restricted to a single issue, such as a balanced budget? If not, and the whole Constitution is rewritten, will the resulting arrangements be reviewable by the courts that now sit, or will those courts cease to exist if they have been restructured, too, and shorn, perhaps, of, say, judicial review? A British historian once observed that nothing so puts the roses in the cheeks of an American than the possibility of constitutional change. Currently, the House Judiciary Committee is trying to derail the movement. After all, such a convention could — and probably would — supersede Congress.

On the other hand, the American Bar Association sees no legal or, ironically, constitutional objection to such a convention. As for public opinion, there is none worth recording yet. There never is until the 30- to 60-second spots begin to show up on television.

Our educational system has never been zealous when it comes to telling us our actual history as opposed to our ongoing and ever-shifting mythology about ourselves. I am aware that whenever the pollsters present the Bill of Rights as so many unidentified questions, a majority tends to reject most of them. So, wouldn't this popular and spontaneous dislike of our original rights and liberties make it all the more likely that the Bill of Rights would be the first to fall to the majoritarian will? I doubt it. Madison's observations on the iron law of oligarchy are as true today as in his time. A small group eventually does the work of conventions, congresses, nations. Contrary to current liberal opinion, there is no vast majority, moral or otherwise, back of the TV evangelicals.

Although today's electorate is far less educated than that of the original 13 colonies, there is rather more good sense abroad than the cloistered few might suspect. If there is to be a battle over our freedoms, let it be in the open, not in the attorney general's office or backstage at the Supreme Court. I think that the Bill of Rights might actually be enhanced.

When we next examine our Constitution, we shall also have to take into account our situation in the world as it is now and

not as it was when a small agrarian country, shielded by two oceans, and could develop pretty much as it pleased. The most useful model is that constant source of mirth, little Switzerland. The Swiss constitution is particularly applicable for a vast heterodox population. After all, Switzerland has four separate tribes confined, peacefully, in one small area. The solution is local autonomy within a federal system, which brings us back not to that Constitution whose glories we celebrate this year but to something more like the original Articles of Confederation. Our empire days are over. Our flag will never again go up over distant capitals. The guns are quiet — or they better be.

The executive office, as conceived by our founders, is a perennial wild card, easily played by the man who would be king. Next time around, we should settle for a ceremonial president who would act as referee, while the actual chief of government would be chosen by a majority in Congress.

I take it for granted that new federal arrangements can be hammered out, and our existing institutions rationalized while maintaining those famous checks and balances so reminiscent now, in their perfection, of death. The Bill of Rights will be more troublesome. Our present radical rulers tell us that the 14th Amendment (protecting individual life and liberty) is not applicable within those states to whom the 10th Amendment (protecting states' rights) reserves so many unnamed rights.

— This position is unlawful but understandable. Unfortunately, those who hold it are profoundly illogical. For instance, they have invented something called the Drug Enforcement Agency — a name that sounds as if the agency exists to enforce each of us to take drugs.

Now urine tests and blood tests and polygraphic tests are all the rage. AIDS has been a godsend, literally, if one is to listen to the lusty TV evangelicals, who prefer adultery and simony to sodomy, and money to all else. Eventually, the federal government will have what is every government's dream, total control over the private lives of its citizens.

It is no accident that successful presidential candidates, ritually and hypocritically, run against the government. The people, instinctively, hate what is being done to them. That is why all of these intrusions and usurpations must be confronted quite soon, with or without a constitutional convention, and if this trend is not stopped in its tracks, then we must set in motion Jefferson's great anathema: "What country can preserve its liberties if their rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms. The remedy is to set them right as to facts, pardon and pacify them. What signify a few lives lost in a century or two? The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants."

I am not so sure that there are many patriots left in this curious sad republic turned, most mischievously, empire. But the tyrants are very much in place. And we must set them right, somehow or other, so that we can pardon and pacify them. Ideally, within the frame of a new Constitution. If not ideally — well, human events will take their course. They always do.

4. The last tax increase was passed by the House of Representatives on a voice vote, so you will never know how your Representative voted on it. Do you believe that Congress should be required to "go on the record" with a roll call vote for any tax increase? (The balanced budget amendment contains such language.)

☐ YES ☐ NO

5. The President believes the budget can be balanced by cutting government spending and waste; and without raising taxes. Do you agree?

☐ YES ☐ NO

6. NTU requests that you help us cover the costs for us to distribute these surveys and to lobby for passage of the balanced budget amendment. Others have contributed so that we could mail you this survey. Will you send us a contribution for your survey?

☐ YES ☐ Cannot at this time

NO REFERENCE
to CON-CON
N.T.U. MAILING

7. The average contribution is \$15. How much will you send along with your survey?

☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100

☐ \$500 ☐ OTHER \$ _____

8. ☐ I have made my check out to NTU

Please bill my:

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Card No.

____ - ____ - ____ - ____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

TEXT OF BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. Outlays of the United States for any fiscal year shall not exceed receipts to the United States for that year, unless three-fifths of the whole number of both Houses of Congress shall provide for a specific excess of outlays over receipts.

SECTION 2. Any bill to increase revenues shall become law only if approved by a majority of the whole number of both Houses of Congress by a rollcall vote.

SECTION 3. The Congress may waive the provisions of this article for any fiscal year in which a declaration of war is in effect.

Please Remove and Return Within
48 Hours. Envelope Enclosed.
Detach Here

OFFICIAL BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT SURVEY

MAIL TO:

Balance the Budget Amendment Committee

% National Taxpayers Union

325 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E.

Washington, D.C. 20003

INSTRUCTIONS: Read each question completely; then mark your answer in the space provided. Results will be reported to the President and all members of Congress.

1. The Federal deficit is now approaching \$3 trillion. Do you think it is immoral for politicians to pass the debts of our generation on to our children?

☐ YES ☐ NO

2. Thomas Jefferson proposed a balanced budget amendment over 200 years ago. The National Taxpayers Union launched the modern day effort to pass a balanced budget amendment in 1975. President Reagan again called on Congress this year to pass the amendment. Do you think Congress will balance the budget unless required to do so by the Constitution?

☐ YES ☐ NO

3. Do you advocate a balanced budget amendment?

☐ YES ☐ NO

(Over, please)

This is your opportunity to give Congress your vote on the balanced budget amendment—to let Congress feel the heat!

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Rewriting Constitution a Risky Ploy

By Elaine Donnelly

The federal budget deficit has grown to such staggering proportions that everyone seems to be grasping for new ways to solve the problem. One such idea is the persistent drive to call for a federal constitutional convention, for the purpose of writing a Balanced Budget Amendment.

Thirty-two states have already called for a convention — the first since Philadelphia in 1787 — to write such an amendment. Only two more state "calls" are needed to trigger a constitutional convention (Con-Con, for short) and Michigan is targeted to be one of those two states. The theory behind this campaign is that Congress will be so intimidated by pressure from the states for a Con-Con, that they will finally knuckle under and propose a Balanced Budget Amendment of their own.

But why should the big-spending House Speaker Tip O'Neill, who doesn't want a Balanced Budget Amendment, go along with his opposition's game plan? From the wily Democrat's point of view, it would make far more sense to buy time by letting Con-Con begin, while using hard-ball politics to neutralize it from within.

FOR EXAMPLE, the big spenders in Congress could easily inflict great partisan harm on the Republicans by writing rules for the Article 5 convention that would give the state governors — most of whom happen to be Democrats — the power to appoint Con-Con delegates.

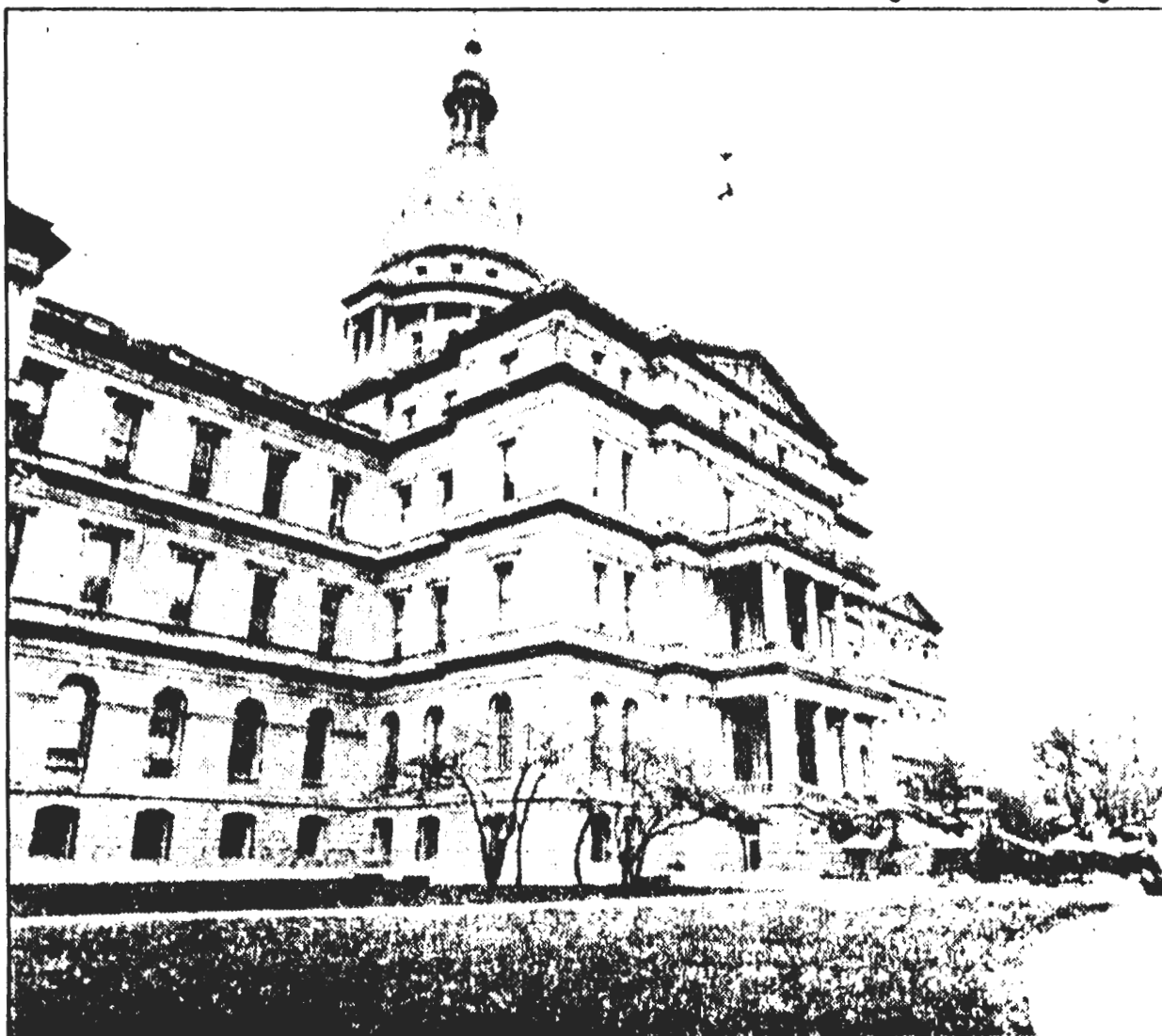
With the same breathtaking ruthlessness that worked last spring to exclude Republican state-certified winner Richard McIntyre from Indiana's 6th congressional seat, the special interest advocates could be counted in as Con-Con delegates, while true budget-cutters could be counted out.

Forget romantic notions about modern-day Founding Fathers being selected as delegates by virtue of their sincerity in wanting to limit government spending and taxes. Even if Congress decides to allow for election of delegates, no one knows how many there would be, or how they would be apportioned — from districts, or at large from across the state.

Delegate election campaigns would, of course, cost lots of money, and anyone who believes that only the "good guys" win elections doesn't understand politics.

COULD THE Con-Con be limited to just one issue? The only thing we know for sure is that one set of lawsuits will be filed if the delegates stick to one issue, and another set will be filed if they don't.

For example, how could the convention be limited to only the Bal-



anced Budget Amendment issue when the original convention in 1786, the only precedent we have, went far beyond its sole and solemn charge to merely amend the Articles of Confederation? Once the convention begins, coalitions of delegates could conceivably start trading votes to open up the agenda for each other's favorite amendments. After all, even Article 5 uses the plural word "amendments," not the singular.

Would the Supreme Court intervene? Probably not, because history shows that the court has generally stayed out of sticky disputes over constitutional amendments by labeling them as nonjusticiable "political questions."

Conservatives should realize that far-sighted establishment liberals, who have no use for a Balanced Budget Amendment, nevertheless have contingency plans to enact sweeping constitutional changes that are more to their liking in the event that a Con-Con does take place. Unenforceable restrictions in the state "call" resolutions could not stop a powerful second convention from enacting long-discussed constitutional "reforms" — toward a more central-

ized, parliamentary form of government.

UNLIKE CONGRESSMEN who must run for re-election, seated Con-Con delegates would be as free of accountability to the voters as federal judges with lifetime tenure. Contrary to popular belief, the delegates' work wouldn't be submitted directly to the voters, but to the state legislatures or special state conventions that would be appointed or elected — again, under rules yet to be written by Congress.

The irony is that after at least 10 years of time and millions of dollars in campaign costs, the would-be budget-cutters who started the whole process could very well wind up with nothing to show for their efforts, except a pile of legal bills and a federal deficit that has grown even larger than ever. If the Con-Con delegates produce a mish-mash package of good and bad elements that is rejected by the states after attacks from all sides, which is likely, Tip O'Neill and his successors will have won the game.

Before the Michigan legislators vote to ignore all of these political hazards, in a well-meaning attempt to

pressure Congress, they ought to take a closer look at the shaky premise behind the Con-Con strategy. If the movement behind the Balanced Budget Amendment says it just can't get an amendment out of Congress for ratification by the states, then why should anyone believe that the same movement is strong enough to control the outcome of a powerful and unpredictable constitutional convention?

On April 25 of this year, the Michigan House passed a resolution (HJR C) calling for a Balanced Budget Amendment, but they refused to join the Senate in passing a resolution (SJR A) that would have made Michigan the 33rd out of 34 states that are required to call for a constitutional convention.

Even though a renewed campaign is expected in September to push for an amended House resolution that does call for a Con-Con, our lawmakers should continue to be careful what they ask for. They just might get it.

Elaine Donnelly operates Donnelly Media Associates.

← PLEASE NOTE

WSJ

A Safe and Effective Constitutional Convention

3-11-87

By MARTIN ANDERSON

Again and again during the first six years of his presidency, Ronald Reagan has pleaded the urgency and importance of a balanced-budget amendment to the Constitution. In campaign statements, in his acceptance speeches at the Republican national conventions, in five of six State of the Union messages, in two national radio addresses, in the Economic Report of the President and in both inaugural addresses he has clearly made the passage of a balanced-budget amendment one of his top policy priorities.

But so far it has been a toothless tiger. The reasoning and rhetoric have been powerful and sleek, but his administration has not produced a specific program for him to take to the American people, a program that has sharp, cutting teeth. The main reason is that few people in the administration think that a balanced-budget amendment is as important and desirable as President Reagan does and the vast majority of the American people say they do. Time is running out on President Reagan and he can no longer afford to wait for his staff to produce the balanced-budget policy options he has every right to expect. He is going to have to demand them.

I propose a two-week constitutional convention in Philadelphia this fall for the express and sole purpose of drafting a brief

may fall. Are their fears justified?

No, not at all. The specter of a "runaway" convention is a disingenuous argument put forth usually by those who are adamantly opposed to the idea of balancing the budget in the first place. There are some valid reasons why one could oppose balancing the budget—concerns over having enough money to spend on national defense and on social-welfare programs, and concerns about having to raise taxes. These should be argued out in the open, not masked behind silly and dishonest arguments about the "dangers" of a constitutional convention.

To begin with, a convention would not be a gathering of thousands. The entire Constitution (some 8,500 words) was drafted by fewer than 100 people. The proper size of a modern convention would be about 100 people, similar in scope to the platform-writing committees of the major political parties.

Let each state send two delegates to the convention. This could be done by statewide election. Or, in a system that would be easier and faster, the governors could appoint two delegates, with the stipulation that there must be one man and one woman and one Democrat and one Republican in each state delegation. The intense publicity focused on the selection process by the media would go a long way toward

thing that would threaten one hair of the Constitution's head.

The zero danger of a "runaway" constitutional convention is doubly confirmed by the fact that neither Congress nor a convention has the power to change the Constitution. Both can only propose that something be changed. Then that proposed amendment must be submitted to the states for their approval. And three-fourths of the states—38 of them—must ratify the amendment before it becomes part of the Constitution. The Founding Fathers created a political gantlet for any amendment to run that is so thorough and tough that only the most important, sensible amendments can ever make it.

Ridding the U.S. of a \$175 billion deficit all at once could be counterproductive. It would weaken America's national defenses, ravage its social-welfare programs, and raise tax rates to ruinous levels. But reducing the deficit gradually, say \$35 billion a year, is a different matter. That could be done without causing economic damage. In fact, just the opposite would occur. A sure, believable path toward wiping out the deficit would be of great benefit to the economy. That is why any balanced-budget amendment must include a specific deficit phase-out period. Five years would seem to be just about right.

This is the way Congress Budgets Bill

be the proper setting for symbolic reasons. An excellent version of the amendment to start with is the one that more than two-thirds of the Senate and a majority of the House voted for in 1982. If the delegates don't like that one, Milton Friedman has also drafted a couple of paragraphs. All they have to do is a little editing.

So let's get on with it. President Reagan should take his case directly to the American people. The issue is of such fundamental and lasting importance to the future of the U.S. that it deserves at least a full half-hour television address on prime time.

In his speech to the nation the president should urge Congress to propose a balanced-budget amendment within 30 days. If Congress fails to do this, as it is likely to, the president should declare that he will then personally lead a national campaign to call a balanced-budget constitutional convention, using all the powers of his office to persuade at least two more states to pass the necessary resolutions.

President Reagan's goal should be a balanced-budget amendment firmly embedded in the Constitution before he leaves office in 1989.

Mr. Anderson is a senior fellow at Stan-

Burger brings the Constitut

By N. Scott Vance
News Staff Writer

Former Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren E. Burger Friday brought his promotional campaign for the Constitution's bicentennial and his quick wit to Detroit, where he was welcomed with a mayoral proclamation and an honorary university degree.

Burger outlined a new five-year plan for his Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, calling on scholars and others to join him in giving the document a thorough checkup.

Burger called the Constitution,

signed in 1789, the "greatest organic document in the history of the human race," but said so much has changed since it was written that an intensive study of it is needed.

"WHILE THE Constitution remains a unique and wonderful instrument of government that is as alive and as sound as it was when written in 1787," Burger said, "a nation of 240 million in the 20th and 21st centuries has needs and problems different from a people of four million in the 18th century."

Burger's 23-member commission was created by Congress to oversee a national celebration of the Constitu-

tion's signing and to provoke interest in the document among scholars, students and the public.

He addressed a gathering of 1,500 Friday night in the Westin Hotel. Earlier Friday, Burger received an honorary doctorate at Wayne State University and Mayor Coleman A. Young proclaimed Friday "We The People Day," in recognition of the Constitution and the former chief justice's visit.

The crowd at the Westin included lawyers, judges and elected officials from the four states in the Sixth U.S. Appellate Circuit — Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky. But the chairman of the affair, U.S. Appeals

ion's birthday show to town

Court Judge Damon J. Keith noted that the crowd included 300 students from 45 public and parochial schools.

YOUNG CALLED the audience "a healthy slice of Detroit. We all know Detroit is much maligned, but tonight we see Detroit as it really is."

Burger was far more willing to talk about history than politics and received laughs with his artful dodging of some questions.

One man at WSU noted that Burger was not as conservative as President Richard Nixon might have wanted and asked whether he thought the new chief justice, Wil-

liam Rehnquist, would be conservative enough for President Reagan.

"You'll have to ask the respective presidents, a lot of law professors, lots of columnists and the anchor-men," Burger said. "Those are the major authorities on questions."

BUT HE appeared happy to comment on a current political subject: a proposal to call the nation's second constitutional convention to write an amendment requiring a balanced federal budget.

"It would be a grand waste of time," he said. "There is no way to put a muzzle on a constitutional convention" and the document

doesn't need wholesale change. "If you get a flat tire, you don't throw the car away."

In outlining his commission's five-year plan, Burger said it would devote 1987 to discussing the framing of the Constitution. Starting in 1988, the group will devote one year each to studying the three branches of government and the articles of the Constitution that created them. In 1991, the group will finish with the Bill of Rights and other amendments, he said.

Asked what he planned to do after completing the commission's work in 1991, Burger responded: "I'm going to take my wife to lunch."



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Detroit Free Press

Section A, Page 3

SECOND FRONT PAGE

Tuesday, November 26, 1985 ••

12-37



**Hugh
McDiarmid**
politics

As it sows, so shall the chamber weep

Drip, drip...

Drip, drip, drip...

The sound, which continues this week, is the Chinese water torture. The victim is the Michigan State Chamber of Commerce.

And good, say the chamber's detractors. After all, its heavy-handed factotums made everyone else suffer, so turnabout is fair play.

At issue, of course, is the continuing fallout from defeat of the so-called federal "balanced budget" resolution (urging Congress to call a constitutional



convention to approve a balanced

budget amendment) in the Michigan Legislature. The chamber promoted the resolution, campaigned for it, lobbied for it, helped pay to advertise it and then lost it... gracelessly.

That was back on Nov. 7, when the chamber was made to suffer not only defeat on the issue but also a tongue-lashing from Rep. Dick Allen, R-Caro, who took the floor just prior to the vote and, amid warm applause, denounced the chamber's "abusive" advertising campaign for the measure.

Supposedly, the issue was dead.

A slow burn

But the chamber, after a slow, two-week burn, revived it last week with a full-page, anti-Allen advertisement in his hometown newspaper, the Tuscola County Advertiser, implying (wrongly, as it turned out) that 16 other members of a pro-balanced budget coalition were as one with the chamber in determining to get even.

There have been these subsequent developments:

- During the day last Wednesday in the wake of the chamber's retributive ad, several of Allen's House GOP pals publicly flayed the chamber and especially its president, Jim Barrett, for the late hit on Allen.

- Later Wednesday, the House Republican caucus, egged on by Allen sympathizers, agreed to a motion instructing the GOP House leader, Rep. Michael Busch, of Saginaw, to write Barrett a letter of complaint.

- On Thursday, Busch sent the letter, expressing the caucus' "disappointment," and his own "surprise and disappointment" at the chamber's action.

"In-kind" help

- Also on Thursday, angst, if not anger, was voiced over news that three Republicans (Reps. David Honigman, West Bloomfield; Lyn Bankes, Westland, and Paul Wartner, Portage, who'd been targeted by the chamber for especially heavy pro-balanced budget lobbying attention) had been

notified by the chamber of "in-kind" campaign contributions of \$438 each related to polling conducted in their districts without their prior knowledge. Busch, for one, remarked on the irony of the chamber's "spending all that time and effort and money to beat up on people and then turning around and telling them that it was an in-kind contribution."

- By early this week, several of the chamber's business-group allies in balanced budget fight (including the Michigan Manufacturers Association) had passed the word that they had no part — and wanted none — in the chamber's heavy-handed tactics, and at least one of them, the National Federation of Independent Business, wrote Allen a letter of apology.

Finally, it was confirmed that a full-page, pro-Allen ad (also in the Tuscola County Advertiser) is planned to correct what Allen described as "half-truths, if not worse" presented last week by the chamber. The ad will be paid for by the National Coalition to Protect the Constitution (labor unions, Common Cause, church groups, etc.) and, according to Allen, "certainly won't be a cheap shot like the chamber took."

It is to appear Wednesday.

Drip, drip...

12-37

Gilmer, Wartner won't change vote

PETER LUKE
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

Stung by radio and newspaper advertisements they say are distorted and deceiving, two Kalamazoo County Republican lawmakers reiterated Monday that they will vote against a House resolution that could lead to the formation of a convention to rewrite the U.S. Constitution.

The House resolution may be voted on this week. If approved, it would make Michigan the 33rd state petitioning Congress to introduce for state ratification a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. If Congress refuses, a constitutional convention would be formed so such an amendment could be inserted.

Thirty-four states are needed to demand the country's first constitutional convention in 198 years.

State Reps. Paul Wartner and Donald Gilmer are the subjects of an extensive lobbying campaign by an 18-member coalition which includes the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Association of Realtors and the National Taxpayers Union.

Thus far the group has spent about \$125,000 to conduct direct mail campaigns, take polls and purchase newspaper and radio advertisements throughout the state, including Kalamazoo County. Two full-page ads appeared last week in the Kalamazoo Gazette urging readers to write the two lawmakers in support of the resolution, called House Joint Resolution "C."

At a press conference Monday, Wartner, of Portage, and Gilmer, of Augusta, said they have supported past resolutions asking Congress to introduce a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution.

They said they oppose convening a convention to address the deficit issue, however, saying it would involve special interest groups to participate in a drastic rewrite of the document.

"I will not be used by a phony stacked survey and trick advertising to jeopardize the Constitution which is the most revered docu-

ment of the American people," Wartner said. "Groups such as the National Taxpayers Union are not worried about the national debt, but only their own special interests when they place pressure on us to vote for a constitutional convention."

"That's baloney," responded David Keating, the union's executive vice president. "There's not one shred of evidence that we have a hidden agenda for a constitutional convention."

Keating said it is fine to support a resolution calling for an amendment, but Michigan's demand for a convention would force Congress to act on the issue because only one more state would be needed to require Congress to actually call the convention.

Both Wartner and Gilmer voted against a similar resolution in April. That vote was 55 to 51 against. Keating said this week's vote could go either way by one or two votes. It is expected that the state Senate will approve the resolution.

Wartner and Gilmer charged that the ads are misleading because they fail to mention that the resolution's passage could lead to a convention. Keating responded there was only so much room in the full page ads, but acknowledged the convention issue wouldn't be a strong selling point to readers if it were mentioned.

"I think it's part of the robust political debate for each side to put its best foot forward," Keating said in a telephone interview from his Washington office. He said his group has contributed about \$40,000 for the lobbying campaign, adding the total figure of \$125,000 is a "ballpark figure." He said his organization has 150,000 members nationwide including 5,000 members in Michigan.

Keating added that if a convention were called, the Michigan resolution gives Congress sufficient time to act on an amendment before having to call a convention. He added there are sufficient safeguards to prevent an extensive revision of the document.

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in
our
opinion

ALLEN: The army of industry attacked him unfairly

WHEN THE captains of labor tried to purge the Legislature of any Democrats who had dared to go their own way on a couple of issues a few years back, the attempt was roundly denounced for its heavy-handedness. And it should have been. One-issue, litmus-test politics isn't, in general, good for the state.

Well, what is sauce for the labor goose is also good for the Michiganders who run the state Chamber of Commerce. They've been kicking Rep. Richard Allen, R-Caro, around over his complaints about the abusive campaign to force him to vote for the cockamammy call for a constitutional convention to add a balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Those who are trying to get that resolution passed have every right to do so, even though there is a lot of respectable political theory that says it's a terrible

approach to balancing the budget. At least two Republican members of the U.S. Senate came to Michigan recently to say that the constitutional convention is a poor excuse for action on the federal budget deficit. The Michigan House agreed.

James Barrett, the president of the state chamber, is the one who deserves to be taken to the woodshed, rather than Mr. Allen. The state chamber attacked Mr. Allen in his hometown newspaper for daring to disagree with the chamber's tactics and objective on the constitutional convention. Like some of the lords of labor, Barrett, a lieutenant in the army of industry, seems to have a large talent for bungling on important issues.

Back off, Jim Barrett. Purges in this state have a way of backfiring on those who undertake them.

House Republicans to protest Chamber of Commerce tactics

Free Press Lansing Staff

Republicans in the Michigan House agreed Wednesday to protest vigorously the Michigan State Chamber of Commerce's aggressive lobbying activities on behalf of the so-called federal balanced budget amendment proposal that was defeated in the House two weeks ago.

The protest will be in the form of a letter from House GOP leader Michael Busch, R-Saginaw, to chamber President James Barrett. The letter, which circulated Wednesday in draft form, accuses the chamber of "displaying a divisiveness that neither the Chamber nor the House Republican caucus can

afford" and suggests that "your tactics may well have jeopardized our chances for attaining a majority in 1986."

The action, taken in a late afternoon GOP caucus, followed complaints by some members about a full-page chamber advertisement in the Tuscola County Advertiser this week criticizing state Rep. Dick Allen, R-Caro. Allen voted against the balanced budget resolution Nov. 7 after delivering a floor speech critical of what he said was "abusive" and "unethical" advertising by the chamber.

The resolution, approved earlier by the state Senate, was vigorously promoted by the chamber and other business and taxpayer organizations.

DETROIT FREE PRESS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1985

12-38

made our abundance possible. We are heirs to a precious legacy, one that has taken centuries to build, and we must forever recognize that its preservation and increase are our glad task and solemn responsibility.



Administration's Agenda

*Remarks at a Meeting with Senior Presidential Appointees.
September 8, 1987*

Thank you very much, but I think George and I should be applauding you. I thought it'd be good to get together now that we've all rested from our summer vacations, although it's true summer vacations aren't always restful. You know that that leads to a story. [Laughter]

There was a fellow that was on his way to a mountain resort, and a policeman stopped him and said, "Did you know you're driving without taillights?" And the driver hopped out of the car. He was so badly shaken that the officer took pity on him and said, "Well, now, wait a minute. Calm down. It's not that serious an infraction." The fellow said, "It may not mean much to you, but to me it means I've lost my trailer, a wife, and four kids!" [Laughter]

But it's good to come together as we face these final 16 months—only 16 months. From this moment on, we must approach each new task with the same sense of urgency that we first brought to Washington back in 1981. The challenge is no less, and the goals are still attainable.

If I could interject something here: Political life has always reminded me a little of my former career. And the whole philosophy was when you come to town open big. And now, well, it's time for an even bigger finish and a good curtain call.

On the domestic side, we face one more important task—or no more important task, I should say, then securing the confirmation to the Supreme Court of Judge Robert Bork. [Applause] Well, we all know that since his nomination Judge Bork has come under attack for being some kind of a right-wing ideologue. We also know those charges are wrong.

Judge Bork believes in judicial restraint, and this means reading laws in the way intended by elected officials and pass them and not reshaping them according to judicial whim. Now, where the law deals with moral issues, Judge Bork has said—and I quote—"The moral content of the law must be given by the morality of the framer, or the legislator, never the morality of the judge." So, consider that irony. Some legislators are organizing opposition to a judge who believes in deferring to them and in faithfully abiding by the intent of the laws they pass. The country wants and deserves a Supreme Court that doesn't make the laws but interprets the laws.

Judge Bork is superbly qualified—one of the outstanding legal minds in the country and a judge's judge. He's also a people's judge: a judge who believes profoundly in the Constitution that protects the people's rights and in government by the people themselves. I'm convinced that in the end he will be confirmed, but there's no denying that it's going to be a tough fight. I'll need the help of every person in this room, especially those of you who deal regularly with the Congress.

I have a feeling—well, I was going to ask a question here, but when I mentioned his name, I don't need to ask the question. I was going to ask it, you know, to limber us all up—that when it comes to restoring judicial restraint as the guiding principle of American courts, when it comes to winning the confirmation of Judge Bork to the Supreme Court he so richly deserves, I was going to say, can I count on you? You've already answered that question.

But next, the budget process. Excuse me; it's probably more accurate to say the so-called budget process—delay after delay, missed deadline after missed deadline, a process that's not reliable or credible. And consider what it turns out. There's the Federal program that will spend millions to build luxury hotels, restaurants, and condominiums—that's right, condominiums. As I remarked when I spoke about this in Indiana recently, I barely had time to figure out what yuppies were before Congress started to subsidize them. [Laughter] And there are the boondoggle public work projects; the farm programs that provide little or nothing

for many family farms but that have paid one already-wealthy farmer more than \$13 million dollars; the \$8 million Congress voted this year to establish—get ready—a center for the study of weeds.

It's time to bring an end to the yearly budget fiasco, time to enact the measures that we have put forward as part of our Economic Bill of Rights. And let me say in some areas we're not waiting for Congress to act. A new initiative I announced as part of my Economic Bill of Rights is privatization. Last week I appointed a private—or a bipartisan commission, I should say, to report back to me on ways that we can permanently reduce the size of the Federal Government by returning appropriate activities to the private sector.

But central to the entire effort to bring discipline to the Federal budget will be passage of the line-item veto and a balanced budget amendment. On the balanced budget amendment, a special note: 32 States have already adopted resolutions calling for a constitutional convention for the purpose of drafting a balanced budget amendment—32—that's out of the 34 that are needed before a convention would actually take place. And I can tell you that every time I have mentioned balanced budget out across the country, in addresses to as many as 30,000 people in one outdoor meeting, they break into applause at that term. And it seems that here in Washington, I think—well, I would prefer to see the Congress show the discipline to pass a balanced budget amendment on its own. But if Congress refuses to do so, then I think we'll agree it will be our intention to take the case directly to the State legislatures. You know, I'd sort of enjoy speaking back in Sacramento again. [Laughter]

On August 12th I challenged the Congress to give us an up-or-down vote on our balanced budget amendment and to negotiate on every spending item, and that offer still stands.

In foreign affairs, we're engaged in intensive negotiations with the Soviet Union on arms control, as you well know, negotiations that hold out the hope of actually cutting both sides' nuclear arsenals. And then in

Nicaragua there is the urgent and crucial matter of establishing democracy.

In recent weeks the issue in Central America seems at times to have become confused: Who is proposing what? How many likely votes are there on Capitol Hill for this or that? But the real issue has never changed. The real issue is peace and democracy in Central America and the national security of the United States.

As President Arias of Costa Rica has said, there will never be peace in Central America until Nicaragua achieves "true democracy." If the other side wants peace, there's no reason for delay; let them democratize now. Democracy requires an immediate cease-fire with the freedom fighters; a general amnesty and the negotiated release of the thousands of political prisoners now held in Sandinista jails; a firm date for free, contested, and internationally supervised national elections; and the immediate recognition of fundamental human rights—rights including freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of worship. The time has come to focus on the goal to bring peace and democracy throughout Central America and especially in Nicaragua.

Let's be clear about one thing. We will not abandon our friends in Nicaragua. [Applause] Bless you. We share their desire for peace, prosperity, and democracy; and we will support them in that quest just as we've supported them in the past. We will not accept a mere semblance of democracy. We got to this point through efforts of the over 15,000 freedom fighters struggling, and some of them dying, for freedom for their country. It is their country, their future, and if the recent peace agreement does not work, let's resolve that they will be able to count on our continuing assistance until Nicaragua is a genuine democracy. [Applause] Well, thank you. You've made it evident that today, as always, we stand with those brave Nicaraguan men and women who are working, are praying, and, yes, fighting for human liberty.

More than 6 years behind us and just 6 more months to come. I want you to know how grateful I am and how deeply grateful for all that each of you has done—for all

centennial we celebrate this year. The 1987-88 Combined Federal Campaign gives us the opportunity to help others achieve the full promise of America through our voluntary giving. It is important that each of us take visible leadership roles in the Campaigns in our agencies.

Secretary of Health and Human Services Otis R. Bowen has agreed to serve as Chairman of the 1987-88 Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area. I am asking that you support Secretary Bowen by personally serving as Chairman of the Campaign in your agency and appointing a top official as your Vice Chairman. Please advise Secretary Bowen of your willingness to serve and the name of the person you designate.

The single most important ingredient in making the Combined Federal Campaign a success is the active involvement of top leadership. Consequently, your personal interest, visible support, and participation are essential. Thousands of Federal employees participate, but many others remain on the sidelines. Make a special effort to encourage all of your employees, both in the Washington area and in all the CFC locations worldwide, to support the Campaign.

With your leadership, we can make this fall's campaign a resounding success.

Ronald Reagan

Combined Federal Campaign

Memorandum From the President.
August 12, 1987

Memorandum for All Federal Civilian Employees and Military Personnel

The promise of America is contained in our Constitution whose bicentennial we celebrate this year. Let us take the opportunity provided by the 1987-88 Combined Federal Campaign to help all Americans participate in our Nation's promise.

Your history of increasing generosity over nearly three decades of voluntary giving demonstrates your continuing concern for

the needy in the United States and around the world.

You have a record of unselfishness and concern for others that is unsurpassed. I am proud of you all. I am confident that your outstanding past performance will continue in this year's Campaign. While the decision to give is personal and voluntary, I encourage each of you to join me in wholeheartedly supporting the 1987-88 Combined Federal Campaign.

Ronald Reagan

Iran Arms and Contra Aid Controversy/President's Goals

Address to the Nation. August 12, 1987

My fellow Americans:

I've said on several occasions that I wouldn't comment about the recent congressional hearings on the Iran-Contra matter until the hearings were over. Well, that time has come, so tonight I want to talk about some of the lessons we've learned. But rest assured, that's not my sole subject this evening. I also want to talk about the future and getting on with things, because the people's business is waiting.

These past 9 months have been confusing and painful ones for the country. I know you have doubts in your own minds about what happened in this whole episode. What I hope is not in doubt, however, is my commitment to the investigations themselves.

So far, we've had four investigations—by the Justice Department, the Tower board, the Independent Counsel, and the Congress. I requested three of those investigations, and I endorsed and cooperated fully with the fourth—the congressional hearings—supplying over 250,000 pages of White House documents, including parts of my own private diaries.

Once I realized I hadn't been fully informed, I sought to find the answers. Some of the answers I don't like. As the Tower board reported, and as I said last March, our original initiative rapidly got all tangled up in the sale of arms, and the sale of arms got tangled up with hostages. Secretary

eral months, there's been much debate about getting our fiscal house in order, but the result once again has been inaction. The congressional budget process is neither reliable nor credible; in short, it needs to be fixed.

We must face reality: The only force strong enough to stop this nation's massive runaway budget is the Constitution. Only the Constitution—the document from which all government power flows, the document that provides our moral authority as a nation—only the Constitution can compel responsibility.

We desperately need the power of a constitutional amendment to help us balance the budget. Over 70 percent of the American people want such an amendment. They want the Federal Government to have what 44 State governments already have—discipline.

To get things moving, I am proposing tonight: If Congress agrees to schedule an up-or-down vote this year on our balanced budget amendment, then I will agree to negotiate on every spending item in the budget.

If the Congress continues to oppose the wishes of the people by avoiding a vote on our balanced budget amendment, the call for a constitutional convention will grow louder. The prospect for a constitutional convention is only two States away from approval, and one way or another, the will of the people always prevails.

And there's another area that will occupy my time and my heart: the cause of democracy. There are Americans still burning for freedom: Central Americans, the people of Nicaragua. Over the last 10 years, democrats have been emerging all over the world. In Central and South America alone, 10 countries have been added to the ranks. The question is: Will Nicaragua ever be added to this honor roll?

As you know, I am totally committed to the democratic resistance—the freedom fighters—and their pursuit of democracy in Nicaragua. Recently there's been important progress on the diplomatic front, both here in Washington and in the region itself.

My administration and the leadership of Congress have put forth a bipartisan initiative proposing concrete steps that can bring an end to the conflict there. Our key point

was that the Communist regime in Nicaragua should do what it formally pledged to do in 1979—respect the Nicaraguan people's basic rights of free speech, free press, free elections, and religious liberty. Instead, those who govern in Nicaragua chose to turn their country over to the Soviet Union to be a base for Communist expansion on the American mainland.

The need for democracy in Nicaragua was also emphasized in the agreement signed by the five Central American presidents in Guatemala last Friday. We welcome this development and pledge our support to democracy and those fighting for freedom. We have always been willing to talk; we have never been willing to abandon those who are fighting for democracy and freedom.

I'm especially pleased that in the United States diplomatic initiative, we once again have the beginnings, however uncertain, of a bipartisan foreign policy. The recent hearings emphasized the need for such bipartisanship, and I hope this cautious start will grow and blossom.

These are among the goals for the remainder of my term as President. I believe they're the kinds of goals that will advance the security and prosperity and future of our people. I urge the Congress to be as thorough and energetic in pursuing these ends as it was in pursuing the recent investigation.

My fellow Americans, I have a year and a half before I have to clean out this desk. I'm not about to let the dust and cobwebs settle on the furniture in this office or on me. I have things I intend to do, and with your help, we can do them.

Good night, and God bless you.

Note: The President spoke at 8 p.m. from the Oval Office at the White House. His address was broadcast live on nationwide radio and television.

North Platte, Nebraska

Remarks to Nebraska Civic and Community Leaders. August 13, 1987

The President. Well, thank you, Virginia, and thank you all very much. Governor

hobby. I have been accumulating stories that are told by the citizens of the Soviet Union among themselves, which reveal number one, that they have a great sense of humor, but number two, that they've got a pretty cynical viewpoint of their system. Now, I don't know whether you know this, but in the Soviet Union, a citizen wants to buy an automobile, the waiting time is 10 years. But he has to go and go through all the process and the departments and sign the papers and everything and then put down the money for a car that he's not going to get for 10 years. And the story that they're telling about this is the fellow that went through all of this and finally made the final signature, put down the money, and then the man behind the counter said, "Now, come back in 10 years and get your car." And he said, "Morning or afternoon?" [Laughter] And the man behind the counter said, "Well, what difference does it make 10 years from now?" "Well," he said, "the plumber's coming in the morning." [Laughter]

Well, thank you all very much. God bless you all.

Mr. Long. From myself and the Long family and the State of Nebraska.

The President. Thank you very much.

Mr. Long. This kind of represents our part of the country.

The President. It sure does. And that's the man who performed where I'm going. Oh, thank you. Oh, I had the pleasure of seeing some of Mr. Long's artistic work in the log cabin here just before we came out to lunch, and I can't tell you how honored I am and how very grateful I am to have this magnificent bronze. And I'm on my way to the ranch in California, and there it will be. Thank you very much.

Note: The President spoke at 12:55 p.m. following a luncheon at the Ted Long ranch. In his opening remarks, he referred to Gov. Kay Orr, Senator David K. Karnes, Representatives Virginia Smith and Hal Daub, and United States Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter.

At the close of his remarks, Ted Long presented the President with a bronze sculpture of Buffalo Bill Cody.

North Platte, Nebraska

Remarks to Citizens. August 13, 1987

The President. Thank you, Governor Orr. Thank you all very much. Senator Karnes, Representatives Smith and Daub, Ambassador Yeutter, Mr. Mayor, reverend clergy, distinguished guests, and ladies and gentlemen—it is great to be here in North Platte. I was here some years ago—I was looking for a job. [Laughter] I can't tell you how good it feels to be out of Washington and back in the heartland of America.

Just a while back, we flew in on Air Force One. When the pilot told me we were flying over Lincoln County and then pointed out the Republican River, I knew I'd feel right at home here. [Laughter] I feel even more at home here in Buffalo Bill Cody's rodeo grounds.

Like Cody, I was born in a small town, moved out West, served in the Army horse cavalry reserve, and then went into showbiz. [Laughter] Now, there are a lot of people—kind of thinking they're disparaging in doing it—call me, today, a cowboy. You know, I've never understood what's so bad about being a cowboy. I'm proud of my spurs. I've often said there's nothing better for the inside of a man than the outside of a horse. [Laughter]

And while we're here, I want to say just a few words about another man who would have felt right at home in this ring—the Secretary of Commerce, and my friend, Mac Baldrige. As you may know, he was from Omaha, and the lessons he learned as a young boy in Nebraska stayed with him. He spent his life working for his country and being a cowboy. And who could ask for a better life than that? When I called him—I'd never met him—but when I called him to ask him to be Secretary of Commerce, I got his wife, and she said he couldn't come to the phone—he was busy in a calf-roping contest. [Laughter] And I knew right then I'd picked the right guy.

I've come to North Platte today because I've got a very important message, a message that I know the people of this State carry in their hearts. It's about America's future, and I've come to say that it can be as big and wide open as the horizon over

adopted my budget. They have cut, yes. They've cut defense every year. They've cut it a total of \$125 billion over what I asked for. But they added \$250 billion to the domestic programs over what I asked for. So, somebody's off base with their commercials.

But you know, we've still got a lot of work to do. We have to institutionalize the gains that we've made, so no one can take them away again. And that's why I stood on the steps of the Jefferson Memorial and announced our call last month for an Economic Bill of Rights to be added to the Constitution, so that the American people will finally have permanent protection from the always growing and always greedy demands of big government.

And the first thing it would require is that the Federal Government do what every American family has to do—balance its budget. And let me repeat what I said last night: If the Congress continues to refuse to vote on our balanced budget amendment, the call for a constitutional convention will grow louder and louder. And, one way or the other, the will of the people always prevails. Now, the Congress could eliminate that long, lengthy, and time-consuming operation of a constitutional convention by simply passing an amendment that says the Government, from here on—well, we're going to take a few years to have to get down there—but then keep balancing the budget.

And second, to make sure that the balanced budget amendment isn't simply used as a lever to raise your taxes, we would require that more than a majority must vote to pass a tax hike. On the theory that it should be as difficult for Congress to raise taxes as it is painful for you to pay them. So, let's look at instead of 50 percent plus one being able to raise the taxes, maybe 60 percent or even two-thirds should have to vote in order to take such a drastic action.

And then, third—it would give the President the same tool your great Governor, Kay Orr, and 42 other Governors use to keep spending under control—a line-item veto. I had it as Governor of California and, believe me, I miss it. That way we can cut away the fat and leave the meat intact.

Now, some provisions would strengthen something our forefathers took for granted—property rights. Others would require truth-in-spending, every piece of legislation would come with a price tag and an explanation of how it's going to be paid for.

This just isn't some economic package we're talking about. It's an insurance policy for America's future that can open the door wide to a generation of prosperity, hope, and opportunity. It's also about our basic principles: individual rights and limited government—in a word, freedom.

And that's why I promise you that I'm going to continue fighting for this. Not just for the remainder of my Presidency but for the rest of my public life, I'm going to be campaigning for these things.

You know, I'm going to stick something in here that wasn't in my prepared remarks. There were some of you down here in front—and it was very flattering, indeed—who were chanting 4 more years. Well, that can't happen with the amendment to the Constitution, and no President in office can ask to change it. But a President out of office can. And you know something? I think we all ought to give some thought—by what right did we tell the people of this democracy—place a limit on how many times they could vote for someone if they wanted to vote for them? [Applause]

I'm told that during World War II the people of North Platte set up a canteen for the soldiers riding past on the railroad cars on their way to the war. And the Government didn't ask them to do it; they just took it on themselves. And in those years—1941 to 1946—they took in 8 million soldiers, gave them food and shelter and a warm welcome.

That's the spirit of this great country of ours, independent and full of heart. And that's a spirit that we've got to keep burning ever brightly, shining from these prairies, from the mountain majesties, from our cities and towns. Shining for all the world to see: a people as good and generous as they are free.

And you young people who are here, let me tell you a little true incident. A scholar

wringers in Washington a message. They believe in our program because they believe in themselves.

As Woodrow Wilson said, "America is not a mere body of traders. It is a body of free men and women. Our greatness is built upon our freedom. It is moral, not material. We have a great ardor for gain, but we have a deep passion for the rights of man." Well, we'll suffer no more delusions that these sentiments are found only in the mist off of the Potomac. It is the common bond of all who love freedom. In the words of Lech Walesa, "There will always be a glow within us."

You know, one of the nice things about this job is mail—the letters that come in. And I just happen to have brought one with me. [Laughter] I think maybe you might be a little inspired, as I was, to hear this:

"I am 81 years of age, born in Russia. Twice in my lifetime I had to run from the Communist regime. First in 1924 I left from Poltava, the Ukraine, and went to Cuba. Then again in 1961 I fled from Cuba and arrived in Miami, in the U.S.A. During my life I have experienced so many disasters brought about by inflation that I want to share my experiences with you, and wish you victory and courage in your crusade.

"I was present when in Russia 100 rubles was printed as a coupon almost the size of a postal stamp because the paper

was worth more than the money itself. I was present when in Germany to buy a loaf of bread you had to carry a bag of money on your shoulder. I was present when in Cuba the peso was on a par with the dollar. After Castro, however, you couldn't exchange 20 pesos for 1 dollar. I was present when my parents were using 100- and 500-ruble bills as wallpaper to decorate their new home in New York. I was present when all the world considered the dollar bill the greatest treasure, worth more than gold or diamonds.

"Without saving and preserving the value of savings, this blessed country of plenty cannot exist, and thank God that we now have a government in Washington who understands this."

On the outskirts of Gdansk in Poland this Christmas, there appeared a sign with letters 8 feet tall, plastered on a wall near the Lenin shipyards. It read, "Countrymen, save freedom." Well, I think that's what you sent us here to do. Thank you for all that you've done, but do even more. In this celebration tonight, renew your commitment. In this decade, our country calls not alone for our sacrifice but for our resolve.

And in case you've wondered, Nancy and I are happy in our work. Thank you all.

Note: The President spoke at approximately 10 p.m. in the International Ballroom of the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Interview With Reporters From the Los Angeles Times January 20, 1982

Views on the Administration

Mr. Nelson. Mr. President, I'd like to start by asking you, you frequently have referred to the tremendous impact that Franklin D. Roosevelt had in reshaping the country, and in your first year, you've made a tremendous impact in starting to reshape the country. And I wondered how you judge your impact in the first year and also what sort of legacy you hope to leave.

The President. Well, I believe that we

have started government on a different course, different than anything we've done in the last half century since Roosevelt began with the New Deal. And that is the recognition that there must be a limit to government size and power and that there has been a distortion of the relationship between the various echelons of government—Federal, State, and local. And I think that we have the most to do with yet, because the higher levels of government are reluctant to give up authority once they

have it.

History shows that no government has ever voluntarily reduced itself in size. So, in effect, you know, we're part of government. We're trying to bring about that change. Now, this does not mean that we don't recognize government's basic responsibilities, the things it is required to do. And with all of the criticism of national defense, one of the top priorities that is listed constitutionally for the Federal Government is the defense of the Nation, the national security. That prime function has been one that has been sadly neglected in recent years.

But I think the very fact that we were successful in getting the biggest single package of budget reductions ever adopted, the single biggest package of tax reductions—and ongoing—that have ever been adopted, has set us on a course of trying to bring back the idea heralded by all our Founding Fathers, and reiterated so often by leaders in government. It's that government must stay within its means. And we haven't achieved that yet. But by cutting the rate of growth in government more than in half or about in half, we're trying to bring those two lines closer together—the line of the normal increase in revenues that comes from the tax structure, and the growth of the country and the economy and the normal increase in government spending, which would reflect the growth in the country.

Today, you have to add to that inflation has been responsible, because government's expenses go up, too, with inflation, just as the individual's do. But this is why inflation is the thing we must turn around.

Now, I know I'm getting very lengthy with this answer, but let me just add one thing. For years out on the mashed-potato circuit, long before I ever thought I'd be a part of government—never had any ambition to be that—I called attention to the fact that years ago, the Democratic majority which prevailed in the Congress for most of this half century, almost all of it—

Mr. Nelson. And you were a Democrat once.

The President. Yes—had adopted deliberately a policy of planned inflation. And they heralded it as the "New Economics," that was their term. And they said that a little

inflation was necessary to create prosperity. And they claimed that it could be controlled, that you could have a small percentage that we could easily absorb, and growth would take care of it and people's earnings would stay ahead of it. And I used to proclaim in my mashed-potato appearances that it was like radioactivity, that it was cumulative. And you could not continue it without it one day getting out of control. And one day, it got out of control.

Mr. Nelson. So, could you just sum up very quickly, though, what do you hope your legacy will be as President?

The President. I hope my legacy will mean that we restore the balance between the levels of government, meaning that we restore to local and State government functions that are properly theirs and belong there, and restore to them the tax sources necessary to support them, which have been also usurped by the Federal Government; that we set a policy that I would hope could be legally imposed, barring an emergency such as war, that the Federal Government, like the various States, must live within its means. And a policy, before I leave, that we could begin, no matter how small, paying installments on the national debt as a signal to those who will follow, that the national debt is not something—that we will either default on, as all other governments in the past have done when it got unmanageable and too big—that we'd not default on and that it will not hang over, forever, succeeding generations.

Federal Budget

Mr. Skelton. Let me just interject there before I ask a question. Would you favor a constitutional convention to propose a balanced budget?

The President. Well, constitutional conventions are kind of prescribed as a last resort, because then once it's open, they could take up any number of things. I've always thought that the regular procedure that is prescribed first, of a constitutional amendment—

Mr. Skelton. Would you like to see Congress pass a constitutional amendment?

The President. There's one thing, though, about a constitutional amendment just to

balance the budget. There must also then be some limitation on the percentage of the people's earnings or the gross national product that the government can take in taxes, because you can always balance your budget just by taking more money away from people. So, that wouldn't help any.

I remember once that Milton Friedman said that the problem is the cost of government, not just necessarily the deficit. And he said he would prefer—this was a time when the budgets were approaching \$400 billion and so forth—he said he would prefer an unbalanced budget of \$200 billion to a balanced budget of \$400 billion, because 400 would be taking more money from the people than it should.

Mr. Skelton. I was going to ask you a question about the balanced budget. We took a poll, and it showed that three times as many people would rather have a balanced budget as increase defense spending or even income tax cuts. And you seem to be moving in a direction where your top priorities are a defense buildup and also tax cuts, and the balanced budget is not quite so high anymore on your priority list. And I wondered if you could explain why that is?

The President. Well, George—and without appearing to be personally critical or anything of your profession—isn't this perhaps a reflection of what is constantly thrown at the public, publicly, that—and all of us are responsible. We all talk about the evils of deficit spending, and—just as I've finished talking here—we want to get back to where we stay within our means.

But I also promised all during the campaign—and I don't know who took that poll, who they talked to—but I remember—if you remember, I used to do Q and A an awful lot, and I remember when repeatedly the question would be asked, if the choice came down to restoring our military security or balancing the budget, which side would I come down on? And I said I would come down on the side of restoring our defenses, our national security. And inevitably, I never—in fact, I never gave that answer to an audience that I did not get enthusiastic applause.

Mr. Skelton. So you feel you have a mandate to do that.

The President. But what I do think lately

is when you start talking about all the cuts and everything, and then usually the military budget is treated as a swollen thing and out of proportion and so forth—actually, it isn't. We're spending a smaller percentage of the gross national product on national defense than we used to do years ago in what were considered normal times. But we're playing catch-up. We are restoring something that was allowed to diminish and deteriorate.

I think that the people hear that, and the people have heard so much about that their troubles are due to the deficit—in part they are. It's harder to explain that reducing the tax rates can result in even the government getting more money, that the tax cuts aren't just simply to relieve an individual of tax burden. They are to restore a balance in government and private spending that will increase productivity, broaden the base of the economy, help provide the jobs for those people that are unemployed. And when that all happens, as it did in the Kennedy years, the government itself ended up getting more money.

The people—we talk tax cuts. We should talk tax-rate reductions. And it's a difficult thing to explain to people, that those reductions in rates for each individual are intended to result in more people paying taxes and better earnings so that government will get a normal percentage increase, even though the individual is better off.

Mr. Skelton. Do you see any circumstances where you might want to delay or cancel these tax-rate cuts of last summer in order to balance the budget?

The President. No. As a matter of fact, I will tell you, I firmly believe—and I have the support of a number of economists on this—that had we not been forced to compromise, had we been able to make these tax cuts—first of all, we asked for 30 percent, not 25, over the 3 years. We had to take that cut to get it.

The second thing was we had asked for it to be retroactive to last January 1st so that the people would have been having a tax cut immediately—retroactively, in fact. And we then first had to compromise down to July—last July 1st—and finally it ended up October 1st, the beginning of the fiscal



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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 513780

FG002

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 14, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE CARL LEVIN

SUBJECT: FORWARDS COPY OF LETTER FROM ROBERT
KACHADOURIAN, WATERFORD, MICHIGAN WITH
SUGGESTION FOR BICENTENNIAL OF THE
CONSTITUTION CELEBRATION

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
WILLIAM BALL	ORG	87/09/14		C 87/09/14
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: OBE

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1210

MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	*OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	*CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		*OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY *			*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
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KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

11
CARL LEVIN
MICHIGAN

513780

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 11, 1987

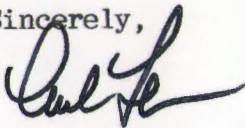
The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

WB
I have recently received a letter from Robert Kachadourian, a student at Haviland Elementary School in Waterford, Michigan. He has a wonderful suggestion and request, and I hope you might be able to fit them into your extremely heavy schedule.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,



Carl Levin

CL/hgp

cc: R. Kachadourian
C. Trim

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
LANSING, MICHIGAN

20TH DISTRICT

CLAUDE A. TRIM

LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909

LANSING PHONE (517) 373 2616

DISTRICT PHONE (313) 623 2435

ASSISTANT MINORITY WHIP

COMMITTEES

EDUCATION VICE CHAIRMAN
CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT
PUBLIC HEALTH
TAXATION

August 19, 1987

Senator Carl Levin
459 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Levin:

Reference is made to the letter dated July 22, 1987, from Mr. Robert Kachadourian, a copy of which is enclosed.

I want to go on record in support of Mr. Kachadourian's request. It would be very meaningful to have a dignitary from Washington present to kick off the celebration of the bi-centennial of our constitution.

I would be appreciative of your interest in this matter also.

Sincerely,



Claude A. Trim
State Representative
20th District

Enclosure
drh

cc: Mr. Robert Kachadourian

July 22, 1981

2070 Highpointe.
Bloomfield Hills,
MI 48013

Dear Sir:

As we celebrate the bi-centennial of our Constitution with a nationwide broadcast by President Reagan leading the children in the Pledge of Allegiance, would it be possible for Haviland Elementary School of Watertford, Michigan to exemplify all the schools in the U.S.A. on that day?

Could a student or perhaps two go to Washington, D.C., on that day to help President Reagan? Or could he come to our school?

It would be a time to remember for all as we enter the third century of this precious document.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

cc: Sen. Riegle, Sen. Levin
Rep. Curt, Sec. Bennett,
Rep. Trim, Supt. of Michigan
Educational Dept.

Respectfully
Robert Kachadourian



United States Constitution Bicentennial

1787/
1987

*“provide for the common defence -
secure the Blessings of Liberty”*



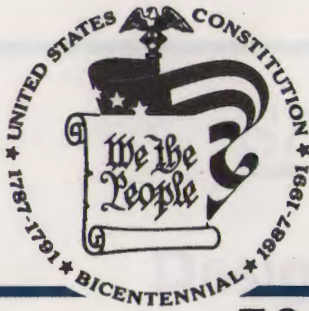
United States Constitution Bicentennial



1787/
1987

*"provide for the common defence -
secure the Blessings of Liberty"*





STATE / LOCAL AFFAIRS

UPDATE

JUNE-JULY 1987

50 States Aboard Celebration

With summer almost upon us, the days are rapidly dwindling until the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution has its gala event in Philadelphia on Sept. 17. Right now, there are over 1,100 Designated Bicentennial Communities on board, many of them are planning special events for annual July 4th festivities, and with the recent addition of four new state commissions, every state in the Union is on board for the first phase of the commemoration.

This issue of UPDATE is for the June-July period, with the next copy arriving in August, but bearing a September dateline. That issue will focus on Constitution Week activities and details of events in Philadelphia, national TV schedules, and a final recap on the Celebration of Citizenship for Sept. 16.

For new readers, the Sept. 16 events will include President Reagan on television leading students in a nationwide Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. It's not too late to get started or be involved! For information and/or materials about any aspect of the Bicentennial, contact your state commission or State/Local Affairs at the national Commission in Washington, D.C. Our phone number is 202/653-9808.

As for the new state commissions, here with their addresses, chairmen and contacts.

ARKANSAS: Arkansas Constitution Bicentennial Commission
Office of Lt. Gov. Winston Bryant
State Capital
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Lt. Gov. Bryant is chairman and Mike Ross is the contact.

MISSISSIPPI: U.S. Constitution Bicentennial Commission of Mississippi
Post Office Box 139
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Co-chairmen are Hon. William C. Keady and Hon. Harry Grey Walker. The Bicentennial coordinator is Fred Slabach.

NEBRASKA: U.S. Constitution Bicentennial Commission of Nebraska
Varner Hall, Room 219
3835 Holdrege Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68583

Chairman is Jack Schuetz. Executive director is Julie Garay.

TENNESSEE: U.S. Constitution Bicentennial Commission of Tennessee
c/o Tennessee State Museum
James K. Polk State Office Building
505 Deaderick Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

Co-chairmen are Hon. Harry W. Wellford and Hon. Douglas Henry. Mary Sewell is the contact.

(Continued on next page)

UPDATE

TEXAS:

Texas Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution
Post Office Box 2066
Brownsville, Texas 78520

Chairman is Hon. Ricardo H. Hinojosa.

How One College is Involved

Melding community and educational resources into one program offers a challenge that County College of Morris in New Jersey has overcome with ambitious planning and presentations.

The school has scheduled a series of interlocking events that involves academic scholars, high school teachers and pupils, college students, historical society members, and the public. The events, which started last November with a series of workshops on the Constitution, will include a mini-convention of high school students on May 27 and will culminate on Sept. 19 with the re-enactment of the Constitutional Convention.

Dr. Louise A. Mayo, Department Chairperson of History/Political Science at County College of Morris, is one of the event's major coordinators. Mayo states, "It's a shame that as a nation we know so little about our own Constitution. Through these programs, we hope to contribute to a better understanding of the Constitution among the citizens of Morris County and provide the participants with the chance to learn about, as well as experience, history 'in-the-making.'"

To start off events in 1986, a workshop was held in preparation for the celebration. In attendance were high school teachers, the delegates to the mock convention, and County College of Morris Constitutional law students. The workshop featured two keynote speakers. Dr. Carl Prince of New York University spoke on "The U.S. Constitution of 1789: End of One Crisis, Beginning of Another." Dr. Christopher Collier of the University of Connecticut addressed the audience on "Founding Fathers and the Doctrine of Original Intent." The workshops are funded by the New Jersey Historical Society.

On May 27, the anniversary of the convening of the Constitutional Convention, 12 to 14 local high schools attended a mini-convention at the County College of Morris. Each high school represented a different state of the 12 present at the Convention. Two others represented the Federalist and Anti-Federalist forces in New Jersey. Students examined the issues debated at the Constitutional Convention and then reconvene to replicate the Constitutional Convention and hear about how the debate might have gone for ratification in New Jersey. Dr. Mayo explains that the students "...have to do the research to replicate the state's views." For example, though New Jersey voted unanimously in favor of signing the Constitution, the New York delegates were divided in their views.

On Sept. 19, the re-enactment of the Constitutional Convention will be held. Each town in Morris County will send a delegate, in some cases the mayor, who will represent one of the 39 signers of the Constitution or one of the three representatives who attended the Convention, but did not sign. Dr. Gordon Woods of Brown University, noted Constitution expert, will open the convention. The delegates will debate issues and vote before an audience of the general public, student body, and before television cameras. In the afternoon, the entire audience will become the voters of New Jersey and, following a brief discussion about Federalists and Anti-Federalists given by Dr. John J. O'Connor of the New Jersey Institute of Technology, will vote on whether New Jersey should ratify the Constitution.

Funding for the entire program is by the New Jersey Committee on the Humanities and the State Department of Higher Education. The events are sponsored by County College of Morris and the Morris County Historical Society. Richard Irwin of the Morris County Historical Society assisted in coordinating the events.

A Script for Re-Enactment

Don't worry about celebrating the Bicentennial of the Constitution in Nevada City, California. The civic-minded people there have been honoring the document for 18 years with ceremonies and a parade.

Here's how William Lambert, Bicentennial Chairman, describes that community's re-enactment of the actual signing of the Constitution:

"In 1986, we took special pains to make our signing ceremony more impressive than in years past. A special stage on wheels was borrowed for the occasion, and it was placed in the middle of the main street, in front of the principal

(Continued on next page)

UPDATE

SPECIAL UPDATE INSERT

Designated Communities Top 1,000

One thousand and climbing....

Or, 1,104 to be exact. That's the number of communities across America that have formed local commissions to participate in the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution (as of May 18). When routine approval is afforded by the state and federal Commissions, the local units become Designated Bicentennial Communities (DBC's) and are recognized as the official organization for the celebration. A DBC then is allowed to use the official logo for the duration of the commemoration, through 1991. (The national Commission has been extended to honor the Bicentennial of the Bill of Rights, 1790-91.)

It's easy to become a DBC and be involved in the Bicentennial. Contact your state commission for information or contact us directly at State/Local Affairs (202/653-9808).

* * *

State leaders in DBC's are:

Georgia	82	New Mexico	13
Illinois	66	Oregon	13
New York	58	Pennsylvania	13
Massachusetts	54	Delaware	12
Ohio	54	Maryland	11
Florida	53	South Carolina	11
Missouri	51	Nebraska	9
New Jersey	51	Vermont	8
Virginia	48	Arkansas	7
North Carolina	39	Colorado	7
Indiana	35	Michigan	7
California	33	Alaska	6
New Hampshire	32	West Virginia	6
Utah	30	Iowa	5
Tennessee	25	Kansas	5
Wisconsin	25	Idaho	4
Maine	24	Mississippi	3
Texas	24	Nevada	3
Arizona	22	South Dakota	3
Connecticut	22	North Dakota	2
Louisiana	21	Puerto Rico	1
Alabama	20	American Samoa	0
Wyoming	19	Guam	0
Oklahoma	18	Hawaii	0
Washington	18	Montana	0
Minnesota	16	Rhode Island	0
Kentucky	15	Virgin Islands	0