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2:30 PM - Presidential Meeting Cannon and Lynn

Thursday, May 15, 1975



THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

May 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

THE VICE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Domestic Council Meeting

On February 13 you expanded the Domestic Council's mission so that it now includes assessing major national needs and developing alternatives for meeting them.

On February 20, you approved a memo authorizing me to solicit from Domestic Council members their appreciations of our national domestic needs and major policy problems.

I invited members' responses on February 27. Digests of their replies were given to you on May 1 with my recommendation that we were now ready for a Domestic Council meeting.

On May 9, Jerry Jones reported that you had authorized a full meeting of the Domestic Council, to include a review of where Domestic Council studies are as well as those studies to be undertaken.

The meeting has now been scheduled for Monday, May 19, at 10:00. By tomorrow afternoon I will have ready for you:

- a. Talking points for the meeting on Monday;
- A summary of material for distribution to Domestic Council members;

As you know, this will be the first working meeting of the full membership of your newly expanded Domestic Council, since you took office.



THE VICE PRESIDENT WASHINGTON

May 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

THE VICE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Domestic Council Study: Federal Social

Programs

On March 6th, we first discussed the possibility of a Domestic Council Review Group for Federal Social Programs. In a memo dated April 17th (a copy of which is attached), Jim Cannon asked for your approval of a formal proposal to establish such a Review Group.

It is likely that we will be faced with Congressional proposals for a wide variety of unrelated domestic programs that are politically popular but fiscally unsound.

The proposed Review Group would be the vehicle to:

- o Conduct an overall review of the effectiveness of existing domestic social programs: and
- o Develop positive and coordinated Ford Administration initiatives in domestic social policy.

It is proposed that you launch the study with a message, followed by hearings across the country at which time Administration spokesmen would explain the need for a reexamination of these programs and ask State and local leaders for their recommendations.

By September, 1975, the Review Group would submit a series of options to you for your consideration and possible adoption for the 1976 State of the Union message. The options will cover the following areas:

- o Income transfer programs;
- Alternatives for health financing and delivery;

- o Social insurance programs.
- o Consolidation of existing categorical grant programs.
- o Allocation of functions and fiscal responsibilities between the levels of government.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that you endorse the establishment of a Domestic Council Review Group.

APPROVE:	
DISAPPROVE:	

Attachment

THE VICE PRESIDENT WASHINGTON

May 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

THE VICE PRESIDENT

In a memo dated April 17th (copy of which is attached), Jim Cannon asked for your approval of the proposal to establish a Domestic Council Review Group for Federal Social Programs.

It is likely that we will be faced with Congressional proposals for a wide variety of unrelated domestic programs that are politically popular but fiscally unsound.

The proposed Review Group would be the vehicle to:

- Conduct an overall review of the effectiveness of existing domestic social programs; and
- Develop positive and coordinated Ford Administration initiatives in domestic social policy.

It is proposed that you launch the study with a message, followed by hearings across the country at which time Administration spokesmen would explain the need for a reexamination of these programs and ask State and local leaders for their recommendations.

By September, 1975, the Review Group would submit a series of options to you for your consideration and possible adoption for the 1976 State of the Union message. The options will cover the following areas:

- o Income transfer programs;
- o Alternatives for health financing and delivery:



- o. Social insurance programs.
- o Consolidation of existing categorical grant programs.
- o Allocation of functions and fiscal responsibilities between the levels of government.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that you endorse the establishment of a Domestic Council Review Group.

APPROVE:	
DISAPPROVE:	

Attachment



THE WHITTHEFT

WASHINGTON

April 17, 1975

PEROPERIDGE FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

JIM CANTON

SUBBRECT :

Pomestic Consoll Study: roderal Social Programs

In response to your suggestion at our meeting on March 6 on the need to develop options for positive action to improve Federal social programs, I recommend that the Domestic Council undertake a combined study of:

- 1. Alternatives for the replacement of current Federal programs of all income assistance, including food stamps, AFDC, SSI, and the new 10% "canned income credit."
- 2. Alternatives for health financing and delivery.
- Practical approaches to the consolidation of existing categorical grant programs into block grants. (Tab A - List of existing grants)
- 4. Proposals for the allocation of functions and fiscal responsibilities of the three levels of government Federal, state and local.

OBJECTIVES

- Conduct Administrative hearings to bring about greater public understanding of the realities and trends of present social programs.
- Develop a broad base of support within the Coagness, State and local governments, opinion leaders, the media, and the public for the concept that --
 - a. Major revisions in the financing and delivery of social services are necessary and possible, and



- b. The Ford Administration has a comprehensive, realistic and humanitarian approach to the development of those revisions.
- 3. Develop options for the President to establish a set of positive administrative and legislative initiatives the Administration could propose to improve, coordinate and rationalize all Federal programs of income assistance and related social programs.

ORGANIZATION

1. A Domestic Council review group would be formed for this project, including:

The Vice President
The Secretary of the Treasury
The Secretary of Agriculture /
The Secretary of Labor /
The Secretary of HEW
The Secretary of HUD
The Director of OMB /
The Chairman, Council of Economic Advisors
The Executive Director, Economic Policy Board

- A study director for this review group would be named.
- 3. Staff work would be done by staff of the Domestic Council, personnel temporarily detailed from agencies, and outside consultants as appropriate.
- 4. Extensive consultation would be undertaken before and during the Administrative hearings with Members of Congress and representatives of state and local governments; and local elected officials would be encouraged to attend each hearing.

TIMETABLE

1. In April, you might want to make a major public address calling for this broad and important initiative. (Draft Outline - Tab B)



TEMETABLE (continued)

- 2. The Review Group would meet immediately after your address to plan the hearings.
- 3. The public hearings suggested by Jim Lynn might be conducted throughout the country between May and September (List of Proposed Cities Tab C). Rural areas could also be included.
- 4. A report to Congress could be made in October.
- 5. By December 1, 1975, a package of recommendations could be formulated.
- 6. By January 1, the appropriate legislation could be prepared.
- 7. The complete program could be announced as part of your 1976 State of the Union Message.

FINANCING

- 1. So far as possible the studies would be funded through the agencies involved.
- 2. The study director could be funded by the Domestic Council, and outside consultants funded through departments and agencies.

RECOMMENDATION

The Vice President, Secretaries Butz and Weinberger, Phil Buchen, Max Friedersdorf, Alan Greenspan, Jim Lynn, Jack Marsh, Bill Seidman and Paul Theis have reviewed this package and recommend approval.

DECISION

__Approve __Disapprove



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AS OF 15/14

1. The President's Philosophy and Record:

- a. Government should provide public assistance to all in read, but no government money should be given to those not in peed.
- b. The President voted twice for the Family Assistance Plan, and stated in his 1974 State of the Union address that he hoped Congress would pass a Health Assistance Plan that year.
- c. Existing Federal programs do not meet the needs of the poor, and are costly and wasteful.

2. Where We Are Now on Federal Assistance Programs.

a. Food Stamps

- 1) Number of persons eligible,
- 2) Number of persons reveiving food stamps.
- 3) Number and cost of ingligibles receiving stamps.
- 4) Dramatic examples of abuse of Food Stamps.

b. Aid for Dependent Children.

- 1) Number of persons eligible
- 2) Number of persons on AFDC
- 3) Number and cost of ineligibles.
- 4) Dramatic examples of abuse of AFDC

c. Health Costs.

- 1) Number of persons being assisted, and cost.
- 2) Numbers of persons in need of better health care.
- 3) Dramatic examples of abuses.

d. Other Programs for the Poor.

- 1) Numbers of persons on assistance.
- 2) Dramatic examples of abuses.
- 3) Number and complexity of programs, e.g., 21 Congressional committees and subcommittees review HEW's present public assistance programs.



e. Social Security

- 1) Numbers on Social Security and costs.
- 2) Piscal character of the Social Security system.

f. Assistance through Cotegorical Grants

- 1) Number and variety of grants.
- 2) Costs to the Fodowal government of administering grants; costs to states and local governments for getting grants.
- 3) Dramatic examples of abuses.

3. Where we are Headed under Existing Laws.

- a. Projections on Food Stamps -- numbers to be covered and costs.
- b. Projections on AFDC -- numbers to be covered and costs.
- c. Projections on Health assistance -- numbers to be covered and costs.
- d. Projections on other programs -- numbers to be covered and costs.
- e. Projections on Social Security.
- f. Projections on Categorical Grants -- trends in programs and costs.

g. Overall Projections.

- 1) What percent of people will be on public assistance five years and ten years from now.
- What percent of GNP will go for public assistance.
- 3) What part of America will be productive and what part unproductive.



Need for Reform.

- a. Previous efforts at "welfare reform" have been piecemeal.
- b. Call for a review, government wide, of all Federal, state and local progress and forms of direct and indirect public assistance.
- c. The President is directing the Domestic Council to hold public hearings throughout the country to get the facts about how present programs are working and not working, and to get the broadest range of ideas for making public assistance more meaningful and effective for those in need, and less costly to the taxpayers who support public assistance.
- d. The size of the deficit makes it impossible to propose any new assistance programs, but out of this year's hearings will come a report to the Congress in October, and in January a set of proposals for government-wide reforms in assistance.
- e. The President is concerned about the dollars being spent, but he is even more concerned about the people -- those who must bear the burden of having to be assisted and those who bear the burden of assisting them.
- f. The President is confident that the Executive and the Congress, working together, can solve this problem.



PROPOSED LIST OF CITIES IN WHICH HINGINGS MIGHT BE HELD ON SOCIAL PROCRAIS

- 1. PHILADELPHIA (Fifth most costly city in Aid for Dependent Children, fifth most costly in Medicaid. Home city of Representative Bill Green; home state of Herman Schneebeli, both on Ways and Beans).
- 2. NEW YORK CITY (Mest costly for AFDC, most costly for Medicaid: Home city for the only Dlack member of Ways and Means, Charles Rangel. Home state for Barbar Conable and Otis Pike, also on Ways and Means).
- 3. NEWARK (Sixth most costly for AFDC ninth most costly for Medicaid. Home state of Henry Helstoski, Democratic member of Ways and Means).
- 4. HARTFORD (Largest city in Connecticut. Home state of Senator Ribicoff, member of Senate Finance and only ex-Secretary of HEW in Congress).
 - 5. BOSTON (Eighth most costly city in AFDC, sixth most costly for Medicaid. Home state of James Burke, third ranking Democrat on Ways and Means).
 - 6. DETROIT (Fourth most costly for AFDC, fourth most costly for Medicaid. Home state of Representative Guy Vander Jagt, ranking Republican on Ways and Means from Michigan, and Richard Vander Veen, ranking Democrat on Ways and Means from Michigan. Home state of Senator Robert Griffin, Minority Whip).
 - 7. CLEVELAND (Seventh most costly for AFDC, seventh most costly for Medicaid. Home county of Charles Vanik, sixth ranking Democrat on Ways and Means. Home state of Representative Donald Clancy, fourth ranking Republican on Ways and Means).
 - 8. CHTCAGO (Second most costly for APDC, third most costly for Medicaid. Home city of Dan Rostenkowski, fourth ranking Democrat on Ways and Means. Home county of Representation Fieldip Crane, oighth ranking Republican on Ways and Deans).



- 7; MILWAUREE (Nome state of Sanator Caylord Welson rinth ranking Democrat on Senate Finance and William Stelger, seventh ranking Republican on Ways and Means).
- 10. MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL (Nowe state of Senator Walter Mondale, seventh ranking member on Senate Finance; home city of Representative Joseph Harth, ranking Minnesota Democrat on Ways and Means; and home area of Representative bill Frenzel, nonth ranking Republican on Ways and Means).
- 11. OMAHA (Home state of Senator Carl Curtis, ranking Republican on Senate Finance).
- 12. SEATTLE (Largest city in the Northwestern United States. Home state of Representative Tom Foley, Chairman of House Agriculture, which handles food stamps).
- 13. SAN FRANCISCO (The major city of Northern California. Home city of Representative Phil Burton, and home area of Representative Pete Stark, Democratic member of Ways and Means).
- 14. LOS ANGELES (Third most costly for AFDC, second most costly for Medicaid. Home city for Representative James Corman, ninth ranking Democrat on Ways and Means).
- 15. DALLAS (A leading city in the home state of Representative Omar Burleson and Representative Bill Archer, ranking Democrat and Republican on Ways and Means from Texas, and home state of Senator Lloyd Bentsen, Democratic member of Senate Finance).
- 16. NEW ORLEANS (Home state of Senator Russell Long and Representative Joe Waggonner).
- 17. ATLANTA (Home state of Senator Herman Talmadge, second ranking Democrat on Senate Finance, and Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee; home state of Representative Phil Landrum, fifth ranking Democrat on Ways and Means).

- 18. RASHULLE (Home city of haptesentative Richard Pulton, seventh manking Desocrat on Ways & Means, and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Assistance; home state of Representative John Duncan, third ranking Republican on Ways & Means, and home state of Senator Bill Brock, member of Senate Pinance.)
- 19. CHARLESTON, West Virginia, (Home state of Senator Robert Byrd.)
- 20. BALTIMORE (Ninth most costly in AFDC, tenth most costly in Medicaid.)



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

April 14, 1875

NEMORALIBUM FOR:

PHIL BUCKEY

MAK FRIEDERSDORF ALAN GREENSPAN BOB HARTMANN

JIM LYNN
JACK MARSH
BILL SEIDMAN
PAUL THEIS

FROM:

JIM CANNON

SUBJECT:

Domestic Council Study: Federal Social Problems

In accordance with the President's suggestion to develop options for improving Federal Social Programs, the attached memorandum recommending a Domestic Council Review Group has been prepared.

Before submitting the package to the President, I wanted to obtain your views as well as any suggestions or recommendations you may have.

I hope to move this memorandum to the President on Wednesday, a April 18th and therefore would appreciate your input by Tuesday afternoon, April 18th.

Thank you.

Attachment

ce: Jim Connor Jerry Jones

