President Clinton
Creating A Government That Works Better And Costs Less
September 20, 1996

"Our Administration is working hard to give the American people a government that works better and costs less... [We] are eliminating 16,000 pages of unnecessary rules and regulations, shifting more decision-making out of Washington, back to states and local communities."

-- President Bill Clinton

Later today, President Clinton and Vice President Gore will present their third annual progress report on their Reinventing Government initiative. In previous reports, the President and Vice President have promoted reforms designed to help our government perform well, spend wisely, and make a positive impact on our lives by:

• Reducing the Federal workforce by 240,000 positions -- making our current Federal civilian workforce the smallest it’s been since John F. Kennedy was President. Under Presidents Reagan and Bush, the size of the Federal workforce actually increased. The Congressional Budget Office projects that these reductions will save at least $61 billion in payroll and benefits between 1994 and 1999.

• Saving taxpayers $118 billion by cutting wasteful government practices and spending through Vice President Gore’s National Performance Review.

• Eliminating, consolidating, and privatizing government. President Clinton has eliminated agencies, like the Interstate Commerce Commission, consolidated hundreds of job training programs, and privatized onetime government entities such as the Naval Petroleum Reserve and the Alaska Power Administration.

• Signing the Line-Item Veto, which will enhance presidential authority to eliminate wasteful spending by allowing the President to cancel wasteful special interest projects and targeted tax breaks.

• Eliminating 16,000 pages of unnecessary government regulations. This Administration has cut EPA paperwork requirements by 25 percent and eliminated 45 percent of the Department of Education’s regulations.

• Doing more with less at the Small Business Administration, where loan volume has doubled -- despite a one-third cut in its staff and budget.