

*Feb. 8 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1993*

## Letter to Representative William F. Clinger, Jr., on the President's Task Force on National Health Care Reform *February 5, 1993*

*Dear Congressman Clinger:*

Thank you for your letter of February 1 concerning my health care task force. I appreciate your support of my efforts to formulate a national health care policy. It is my intention to develop a plan for high quality, affordable health care for all Americans, and I have asked the health care task force to help me develop legislation for comprehensive health care reform.

I have referred your questions concerning the Federal Advisory Committee Act to Bernard Nussbaum, the White House Counsel. Mr. Nussbaum has prepared a letter addressing your concerns, which he will deliver to you under

separate cover. I have also asked Mr. Nussbaum and his staff to be available to answer any further questions you may have on legal issues relating to the health care task force.

With best wishes,  
Sincerely,

BILL CLINTON

NOTE: The President's letter was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 8 but was not issued as a White House press release. The White House Counsel's letter was attached to the President's letter.

## Remarks Announcing the Creation of the White House Office on Environmental Policy *February 8, 1993*

Good morning. I want to make a statement this morning and then turn the microphone over to the Vice President to discuss the environmental issues. And then he will take questions on the matter.

Today I am announcing the creation of a White House Office on Environmental Policy, keeping a commitment that both the Vice President and I made to the American people to bring new leadership and new energy to these issues. And I am today reinforcing my intention to work with the Congress for legislation that will make the Environmental Protection Agency a part of my Cabinet.

We face urgent environmental and economic challenges that demand a new way of thinking and a new way of organizing our efforts here in the White House and in the National Government. This Office represents in action our commitment to confront these challenges in a new, more effective way, recognizing the connection between environmental protection and economic growth and our responsibility to provide real leadership on global environmental issues.

We must move in a new direction to recognize that protecting the environment means

strengthening the economy and creating new jobs for Americans. And we must be ready to take advantage of the absolutely enormous business opportunities that exist both here and around the world for new environmental technologies that protect the environment and increase business profits and jobs.

The days of photo-op environmentalism are over. The Competitiveness Council is closed and so is the back door the polluters used to be able to use to get out from under our laws. This Office represents our commitment to the environment and to a new, more efficient and effective way to craft policies that work, policies that recognize that protecting the environment, strengthening the economy, promoting the global environment, and dealing with global environmental problems have all too often been relegated to the bottom of the agenda. These are policies that will renew for the American people a genuine commitment to their health, their safety, and their jobs.

This Office will be responsible for coordinating environmental policy. The Director of the Office will participate in the National Security Council, the National Economic Council, and