

**PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Hillary Rodham Clinton  
**FR:** Chris Jennings, Steve Edelstein  
**RE:** Meeting with House and Senate Leadership  
**cc:** Melanne, Steve, Lorraine, Distribution

July 30, 1993

Tomorrow you are scheduled to attend a two-part meeting with the House and Senate Leadership. The first half of the meeting will focus on the sensitive issue of health reform jurisdiction and will be attended by Speaker Foley, Majority Leader Gephardt and Majority Leader Mitchell. There is a three-part agenda for the second half of the meeting:

- (1) To discuss the status of the development of the plan and to share first-run employer/employee financial impact charts to make Members feel more comfortable with the plan **(these can be distributed during the meeting, but must be picked up immediately afterwards; it makes it easier to do this if you announce this at the beginning of the meeting);**
- (2) To discuss and review the consultation, health care workshop, and plan unveiling schedule; and
- (3) To give the Members a draft copy of the August recess Congressional health care talking point notebook for them to review and make suggestions before it goes to the rank and file on Thursday.

**BACKGROUND:**

A week ago, Majority Leader Gephardt indicated that it would be advisable for the Congressional Leadership to get together with you for a detailed and quiet discussion about timing, strategy and substance before leaving for the August recess. Concurrent with Andie King's call to arrange such a meeting, you indicated that you thought such a meeting would be a good idea as well. Senator Mitchell's senior staff was not as excited about the idea because the Senate Majority Leader (and his staff) are overwhelmed with the reconciliation bill. (I informed Mitchell's staff that we would be happy to hold the meeting with just the House if they preferred; they decided against taking this approach because they thought there would be no other time to do it before the recess.)

**MEETING ON JURISDICTION:**

Over the past several weeks (if not months) we have been discussing -- on an internal basis -- our options with regard to drafting and jurisdiction issues. We have repeatedly come to the conclusion that we cannot proceed without guidance/direction from the Congressional Leadership. Since the Congressman Gephardt has had an opportunity to focus on this issue in recent weeks, we thought this would be a good opportunity to get a general sense of direction from him (and Speaker Foley and Majority Leader Mitchell) on this matter prior to their August departure.

Majority Leader Gephardt and his office has recently communicated that it is his sense that, despite understandable urges to the contrary, it is advisable for the legislation to be drafted and distributed in such a way as to maintain -- to the extent possible -- the legislative jurisdictional status quo. He believes that it would be politically counterproductive for any major Chairman to feel he is being cut out. Although Senator Mitchell has not had much time to focus on this, it is likely he will feel similarly -- particularly when you recall that he sits on the Finance Committee, not the Labor and Human Resources Committee. A memo from Andie King to Majority Leader Gephardt on jurisdiction issues and an outline of the various sections of the legislation are attached for your review/use.

**MEETING WITH LEADERSHIP:**

**Current Status of Plan and Its on Employers and Employees:** The Members (Foley, Gephardt, Mitchell, Ford, Pryor, Daschle, Bonior, Hoyer, and Fazio) would love to get a sense of where we stand on the development of the plan and to receive a short briefing on how its financing will affect businesses and their employees. Attached is a chart show that you and Ira can use for this purpose. (It is not imperative that you do so, however).

**Consultative and Briefing Schedule:** Attached is a draft schedule for consultative meetings and briefings in August and September prior to the release of the plan. Feedback from the leadership on the proposed schedule will be helpful in finalizing our briefing calendar.

**Congressional Notebooks for the August Recess:** Members have asked for materials to help them discuss health reform with their constituents during the recess. In response, we have prepared a brief discussion on the cost of doing nothing, an overview of the plan, a message piece on the strengths of our plan and how to talk about it, and revised questions and answers. We hope that the leadership can review it by the end of the day Tuesday so we can incorporate their comments, have the notebook printed and sent up to the Hill by Thursday.