

funding in the new law, because I believe that child care is essential to move people from welfare to work. Under the provisions we fought for, funding in the new child care block grant for States will increase this year from \$1.3 billion to \$1.9 billion. That means States will receive \$600 million more for child care this year than they would have received without the new law.

These steps build on the progress we have already made over the last 4 years to reform welfare and crack down on child support enforcement. Since I took office, the welfare rolls have dropped by 1.9 million; child support collections have increased by nearly 50 percent to a record \$11.8 billion; and last year's decline in the number of Americans in poverty was the largest one-year drop in 27 years. I am determined to keep working to make sure these trends continue moving in the right direction.

Memorandum on the Drawdown of Defense Department Commodities, Services, and Training for the Economic Community of West African States' Peacekeeping Force
September 30, 1996

Presidential Determination No. 96-56

*Memorandum for the Secretary of State,
Secretary of Defense*

Subject: Determination to Authorize the Drawdown of Commodities, Services, and Training from the Department of Defense for the Economic Community of West African States' Peacekeeping Force (ECOMOG) Under Section 552(c)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as Amended

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 552(c)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2348(c)(2) ("the Act"), I hereby determine that:

(1) as a result of an unforeseen emergency, the provision of assistance under Chapter 6 of Part II of the Act in amounts in excess of funds otherwise available for such assistance is important to the national interests of the United States; and

(2) such unforeseen emergency requires the immediate provision of assistance under Chapter 6 of Part II of the Act.

I therefore direct the drawdown from the inventory and resources of the Department of Defense of an aggregate value not to exceed \$10 million in commodities and services to provide assistance to states currently participating (Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Mali), and for those states that may in the future participate, in ECOMOG to enhance ECOMOG's peacekeeping capabilities to bring about a peaceful solution to the crisis in Liberia.

The Secretary of State is authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

William J. Clinton

Statement on Signing the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1997

September 30, 1996

Today I have signed into law H.R. 3816, the "Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1997."

The Act provides \$20 billion in discretionary budget authority for programs of the Department of Energy (DOE), portions of the Interior and Defense Departments, the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), and several smaller agencies.

The Act provides \$11.4 billion for atomic energy defense programs, \$0.3 billion above my request. I am disappointed that the Congress has funded unrequested increases for nuclear weapons management and related programs, while curtailing investments in important civilian activities. Nevertheless, I am pleased that the Act will provide for a significantly enhanced Science-Based Stockpile Stewardship and Management program that will continue DOE's strong commitment to ensuring the safety and reliability of the nuclear weapons stockpile. This Act will also enable the Defense Environmental Restoration and Waste Management program to aggressively address the environmental legacy of previous weapons activities.

I am pleased that the Congress dropped a provision that would have made funding for the nuclear waste management program contingent upon congressional passage of a subsequent authorization bill. This language could have led to the immediate suspension of ongoing work at the Yucca Mountain site.

I am also pleased that the Congress provided \$45 million to the International Nuclear Safety program, which assists nations of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in improving the safety of Soviet-designed nuclear reactors.

I am disappointed that the Act cuts \$93 million from my request for solar and renewable energy research programs. Investments in the development of advanced renewable energy technologies, which have a large potential export market, will create new jobs and reduce pollution, thereby addressing climate change and protecting human health and the environment. I am also concerned by the cuts in funding for DOE departmental administration and program direction in civilian research and defense programs that may jeopardize the Department's ability to perform its missions and maintain its financial management responsibilities.

I am disappointed that the Act includes over \$210 million in unrequested funds for Corps' construction, studies, and operation and maintenance programs. The Congress should have used these funds to restore reductions it made to other priority DOE and Corps programs, such as the Corps' wetlands regulatory program.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 30, 1996.

NOTE: H.R. 3816, approved September 30, was assigned Public No. 104-206. This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 1.

Statement on Signing Legislation Waiving Certain Enrollment Requirements

September 30, 1996

Today I have signed into law House Joint Resolution 197, which waives the printing re-

quirements of sections 106 and 107 of Title 1 of the United States Code with respect to any appropriations measure of the 104th Congress that is presented to me after the enactment of H.J. Res. 197. I have done so to avoid any confusion as to my ability to act on any form of legislation presented to me after certification by the Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives that the form is a true enrollment.

In signing this joint resolution, I express no view as to whether it is necessary to waive the provisions of Title 1 before I exercise my prerogatives under Article I, section 7 of the Constitution where the Congress has presented to me any form of bill or resolution it considers to be a true enrollment.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 30, 1996.

NOTE: H.J. Res. 197, approved September 30, was assigned Public Law No. 104-207. This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 1.

Statement on Signing the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, 1997

September 30, 1996

I have signed into law H.R. 3610, the fiscal year 1997 omnibus appropriations and immigration reform bill.

This bill is good for America, and I am pleased that my Administration could fashion it with the Congress on a bipartisan basis. It moves us further down the road toward our goal of a balanced budget while protecting, not violating, the values we share as Americans—opportunity, responsibility, and community.

Specifically, the legislation restores needed funds for education and training, the environment, science and technology, and law enforcement; fully funds my anti-drug and counter-terrorism initiatives; extends the Brady Bill so that those who commit domestic violence cannot buy handguns; provides needed resources to respond to fires in the western part of the Nation and to the devastation brought by Hurricanes Fran and