

parties, in developing models for quality improvement.

Seventh, I direct the task force to enhance efforts to develop user-friendly information for both consumer and business purchasers that facilitates meaningful comparisons of quality performances of plans, facilities, and practitioners.

Eighth, I direct all participating agencies, where feasible and appropriate, to seek to avoid inefficient duplication of ongoing quality improvement efforts and resources.

Finally, I direct the task force, to every extent possible, to endeavor to coordinate the Federal programs' quality reporting and compliance requirements to reduce administrative burdens on private entities who administer, oversee, or participate in the Nation's Federal health programs.

William J. Clinton

Statement on the Decision of Representative Joseph P. Kennedy II Not To Seek Reelection

March 13, 1998

For 12 years in the United States House of Representatives, Joe Kennedy has proven himself to be a dedicated advocate for the Nation's working families. His efforts on behalf of his Massachusetts constituents, as well as underprivileged people across America, will be sorely missed in Washington. As one of the foremost voices in the Congress for low income housing opportunities for needy families, Representative Kennedy worked to expand the availability of credit to working Americans to buy homes and to open businesses.

I know that Representative Kennedy will continue his family's long tradition of public service on behalf of our Nation. I wish him well in all of his future endeavors, and on behalf of the Nation I thank him for his dedicated service.

Executive Order 13078—Increasing Employment of Adults With Disabilities

March 13, 1998

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to increase the employment of adults with disabilities to a rate that is as close as possible to the employment rate of the general adult population and to support the goals articulated in the findings and purpose section of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. *Establishment of National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities.*

(a) There is established the "National Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities" ("Task Force"). The Task Force shall comprise the Secretary of Labor, Secretary of Education, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Secretary of Health and Human Services, Commissioner of Social Security, Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of Transportation, Director of the Office of Personnel Management, Administrator of the Small Business Administration, the Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Chairperson of the National Council on Disability, the Chair of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, and such other senior executive branch officials as may be determined by the Chair of the Task Force.

(b) The Secretary of Labor shall be the Chair of the Task Force; the Chair of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities shall be the Vice Chair of the Task Force.

(c) The purpose of the Task Force is to create a coordinated and aggressive national policy to bring adults with disabilities into gainful employment at a rate that is as close as possible to that of the general adult population. The Task Force shall develop and recommend to the President, through the Chair of the Task Force, a coordinated Federal policy to reduce employment barriers for persons with disabilities. Policy recommendations may cover such areas as discrimination,