

(FCC) must cooperate with industry to identify spectrum that can be used by third generation wireless systems, whether by reallocation, sharing, or evolution of existing systems, by July 2001;

—Incumbent users of spectrum identified for reallocation or sharing must be treated equitably, taking national security and public safety into account;

—The Federal Government must remain technology-neutral, not favoring one technology or system over another, in its spectrum allocation and licensing decisions;

—The Federal Government must support policies that encourage competition in services and that provide flexibility in spectrum allocations to encourage competition; and

—The Federal Government must support industry efforts as far as practicable and based on market demand and national considerations, including national security and international treaty obligations, to harmonize spectrum allocations regionally and internationally.

I also direct the relevant agencies as follows:

1. I direct the Secretary of Commerce to work cooperatively with the FCC, as the agencies within the Federal Government with shared responsibility and jurisdiction for management of the radio frequency spectrum, to develop, by October 20, 2000, a plan to select spectrum for third generation wireless systems, and to issue, by November 15, 2000, an interim report on the current spectrum uses and potential for reallocation or sharing of the bands identified at WRC–2000 that could be used for third generation wireless systems, in order that the FCC can identify, in coordination with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, spectrum by July 2001, and auction licenses to competing applicants by September 30, 2002.

2. I also direct the Secretary of Commerce to work cooperatively with the FCC to lead a government-industry effort, through a series of regular public meetings or workshops, to work cooperatively with government and industry representatives, and others in the private sector, to develop recommendations and plans for identifying spectrum for third generation wireless systems consistent with

the WRC–2000 agreements, which may be implemented by the Federal Government.

3. I direct the Secretaries of Defense, the Treasury, Transportation, and the heads of any other executive department or agency that is currently authorized to use spectrum identified at WRC–2000 for third generation wireless services, to participate and cooperate in the activities of the government-industry group.

4. I direct the Secretary of State to participate and cooperate in the activities of the government-industry group, and to coordinate and present the evolving views of the United States Government to foreign governments and international bodies.

Furthermore, I strongly encourage the FCC to participate in the government-industry outreach efforts and to initiate a rule-making proceeding to identify spectrum for third generation wireless services that will be coordinated with the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information during the formulation and decision-making process with the goal of completing that process by July 2001, so that such spectrum can be auctioned to competing applicants for licenses by September 30, 2002.

William J. Clinton

**Memorandum on Preparing
American Youth for 21st Century
College and Careers**

October 13, 2000

*Memorandum for the Heads of Executive
Departments and Agencies*

*Subject: Preparing American Youth for 21st
Century College and Careers*

Six years ago, I signed into law the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994 to expand career and educational opportunities for our youth. A one-time Federal investment to jump-start State and local education improvement and workforce development efforts, the initiative will end next October after helping raise the academic performance of millions of students.

States and schools have used School-to-Work resources to help students achieve high

academic and industry-recognized occupational standards; encourage community and business involvement in our schools; and integrate technical and academic education. Through innovative learning strategies like strengthened curricula, work-based learning, internships, and career academies, School-to-Work has made learning more relevant to the challenges students will face after high school graduation.

Research shows that School-to-Work students take more challenging classes, earn higher grades, and are more likely to graduate from high school and enroll in college. In particular, School-to-Work programs such as career academies have improved the academic achievement of students who are most likely to drop out of school. School-to-Work helps students see the relevance of their studies for their futures, motivating them to attend classes and study hard, and has created thousands of new partnerships between businesses and schools.

But the need for highly skilled and educated workers has only grown in the past few years. Information Age jobs require more skills and knowledge, much of which was unknown only a decade ago. More than four-fifths of manufacturers use computers in design or manufacturing, and nine-tenths of them report difficulties in finding qualified job candidates. The number of jobs that require a college degree is growing twice as fast as the number of other jobs. In these strong economic times, the National Association of Manufacturers describes the shortage of skilled workers as “the only dark cloud hanging over our future.”

As the School-to-Work legislation nears its conclusion, the Federal Government must prepare to continue its support of State and local efforts that prepare our youth for post-secondary education and careers. To build upon the lessons of School-to-Work program and coordinate the efforts of Federal programs to prepare youth for their futures, I hereby establish the National Task Force on Preparing Youth for 21st Century College and Careers. The Task Force will examine how a coordinated Federal policy can help all youth prepare for future careers in a rapidly changing, technologically driven economy.

The Task Force shall be co-chaired by the Secretaries of Education and Labor. Other members of the Task Force shall include the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and other executive branch officials as determined by the co-chairs. The Department of Labor shall provide funding and administrative support for the Task Force.

The Task Force shall, to the extent permitted by law:

1. promote coordination and collaboration among Federal agencies seeking to improve the academic achievement and career preparation of America's youth;
2. continue existing efforts to involve businesses and community organizations in improving the education and training of our youth;
3. promote sustainable School-to-Work reforms in interested States and encourage the effective utilization of Federal School-to-Work funding through outreach, technical assistance, and dissemination of research findings and best practices;
4. help State and local agencies locate resources, including Federal resources, for initiatives that build on their School-to-Work efforts;
5. report to the President, through the Director of the National Economic Council and the Director of the Domestic Policy Council, no later than January 15, 2001, on:
 - (a) the ways in which the School-to-Work Opportunities Act has improved students' academic performance and career readiness, including community involvement, integration of academic and occupational curricula and standards, small learning communities, career development, application of academic and technical knowledge and skills in the 21st century workplace, development and utilization of industry-recognized portable credentials, and coordination of secondary and postsecondary education;

- (b) the extent to which States are preparing to sustain School-to-Work reforms as Federal support under the School-to-Work Opportunities Act phases out;
 - (c) measures the Federal Government can undertake to promote the effectiveness of State and local School-to-Work reforms;
 - (d) how the Departments of Education and Labor can build on the School-to-Work program to collaborate and coordinate critical programs that prepare youth for postsecondary education and careers; and
 - (e) other matters related to our youth's preparation for and transition to postsecondary education and careers, as deemed appropriate by the Task Force.
6. Report to the President, through the Director of the National Economic Council and the Director of the Domestic Policy Council, no later than September 15, 2002, on:
- (a) updated and revised findings from the Task Force's January 2001 report;
 - (b) how the efforts of Federal agencies to prepare our youth for further education and careers, in addition to those efforts of the Departments of Education and Labor, can be better coordinated, be made more effective, and incorporate the lessons learned from the School-to-Work program;
 - (c) the gaps, if any, between current Federal activities and the rapidly changing education and training needs of the American economy, and how those gaps could be addressed by Federal, State, or local governments or private organizations;
 - (d) how School-to-Work strategies can best prepare special populations for college and careers, including individuals who do not graduate from high school, ethnic minorities, economically disadvantaged students, youths involved in the juvenile justice system, and students with disabilities;
 - (e) what, if any, critical needs exist for new data and research related to improving the academic achievement and career preparation of our Nation's youth; and
 - (f) other matters related to our youth's preparation for and transition to postsecondary education and careers, as deemed appropriate by the Task Force.
- The Task Force shall terminate after it issues its final report to the President in September 2002.

William J. Clinton

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

October 10

In the morning, the President met with Special Envoy Vice Marshal Cho Myong-nok of North Korea in the Oval Office. Later, he had separate telephone conversations with Prime Minister Ehud Barak of Israel and Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority concerning the Middle East peace process.

October 11

In the morning, the President traveled to Pittsburgh, PA, and in the afternoon, to Philadelphia. In the evening, he traveled to Chappaqua, NY, where he watched the Presidential debate.

The President declared an emergency in New York and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area affected by the West Nile virus on July 15 and continuing.

October 12

In the morning, the President had separate telephone conversations with National Security Adviser Samuel R. Berger and Secretary of Defense William H. Cohen on the terrorist bombing of the U.S.S. *Cole* in Yemen and the situation in the Middle East. He also had separate telephone conversations with