Dole Recommends First Disabled American To U.S. Commission On Civil Rights


"Russell Redenbaugh is a profile in courage and achievement who will be a tremendous addition to the Commission. He knows first hand the real life challenges confronting people with disabilities," Dole said.

"Traditionally, civil rights has been focused almost exclusively on discrimination based on race, color, and creed. But one area that deserves far more emphasis is discrimination against the disabled. By appointing a disabled American to the Commission, we have an historic opportunity not only to expand the Commission's scope but also to send a clear signal across America that disabled does not mean unable. I am confident that Russell will be a key player on the civil rights front."

Russell Redenbaugh is a partner and director of the investment management firm of Cooke & Bieler, Incorporated of Philadelphia, and chairman of the Board of High Technologies, Incorporated of Emeryville, California—will be the first disabled American appointed to the Commission.

At age 17, Redenbaugh was blinded and lost most of his hands in an explosion. He is an accomplished author, executive, financial and economic strategist, and teacher, who graduated from the University of Utah, Magna Cum Laude. He continued his education and received an MBA from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, graduating sixth in his class with honors. Redenbaugh resides in Philadelphia with his wife, Patty, and four children, Micah, David, Allie, and James.

The Commission is charged with investigating whether certain citizens of the United States are being deprived of their right to vote; to study and collect information concerning legal developments constituting discrimination or denial of equal protection; appraise laws and policies of the Federal Government with respect to discrimination or denial of equal protection; and to serve as a national clearinghouse for information.

New Publications Available from NARF (See page 6 for more information)
"The Bush Administration’s 1991 budget proposes tentative, old doctrine for a brave new world. With democratic and free-market values swelling nation after nation, Administration policy is anchored on the threshold of unchallenged preeminence in the economic and political world of the 1990s. But that leadership role is being sacrificed to a rigid ideology that stems from its vision in the past and the threats to constrain our energies in the future. The Administration’s budget submission simply perpetuates the illusions of the Reagan years. It could easily be mistaken for the budget of fiscal 1981:

- In spending for defense, the cold war spacer that no longer haunts Europe still haunts the Bush budget. The Administration claims to achieve $3 billion in defense savings below the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings baseline. But even those pitifully modest savings are composed of a spares parity ‘pay shift’ and already discounted ‘management efficiencies’. In short, the build-up goes on — continuing the drain on all other Federal investment and ignoring the radically altered map of world tensions.
- The Administration clings to the same inequitable distribution of the tax burden that has distorted our tax structure throughout the ‘80s. While dismissing proposals for cuts in the regressive 5.5% payroll tax as irresponsible, the Administration uses up once again a capital gains tax cut that benefits the wealthy and loses huge blocks of revenue in the years ahead.

While making a show of shifting its focus to America’s long neglected domestic needs, this budget harkens back to the same tired list of domestic program terminations that has been decisively rejected both by the American people and the Congress in each of the last nine years.

- Finally, this budget replaces the small gimmicks with larger gimmicks. The Administration has once again, in cinically understood terms, in the tune of around $97 billion: by $37 billion in roguy economic and technical assumptions; by an estimated $50 billion in S.L. cleanup ‘working capital’ by $10 billion in REFCORP funding declared ‘off-budget.’ Counting another $136 billion of borrowing from Federal trust funds and off-budget borrowing from previous years, the gross stock of Federal debt will grow by $332 billion in FY 1991.

In sum, the Administration has aimed low and shot lower still. This budget does not even attempt to offer a fiscal blueprint for future economic security. Instead, it poses for public advantage in what may be another prolonged and paralyzing budgetary debate. The possibility for that kind of gridlock is clearly enhanced by the failure of the President to provide decisive fiscal leadership. We must achieve a minimum, this year, of $37 billion in deficit reduction — even under the Office of Management and Budget’s suspiciously rosy accounting. With the Administration essentially taking a ‘pax’ on the first round, the chances for bold fiscal action this year are drastically reduced.

OSERS Reopens Training Grant Applications

The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) has decided to reopen competitive bidding for a grant to provide training of educators of students with multiple disabilities that include auditory and visual impairments under the Waiver of the 1990s. But that leadership role is being sacrificed to a rigid ideology that stems from its vision in the past and the threats to constrain our energies in the future. The Administration’s budget submission simply perpetuates the illusions of the Reagan years. It could easily be mistaken for the budget of fiscal 1981:

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The report spelled out the President’s major economic goals, "to achieve the highest possible rate of sustainable economic growth, reducing the burdens for the coming years. The report quoted the President saying, "Growth is the key to raising standards, to leaving a legacy of prosperity for our children, to uplifting those most in need, and maintaining America’s leadership in the world. To achieve this goal, we must both enhance our economy’s ability to grow and ensure that its potential is more often fully utilized than in previous decades."

The report went on to discuss the policy principles presented by the President, applying them to particular areas of the economy while stressing the importance of growth, the value of taking the long view, and the power of market forces.

Chapter V of the report concerns human resources in the 1990s. This chapter points out that a number of changes in the labor market are applying downward pressures on inflation. The chapter points out the number of changes in the work force is increasing. The percentage of women in the labor force increases at a higher rate than the population as a whole. A higher percent of women report that they want to work now. In the next 10 years, a majority of women who are married and have children will work outside the home. By the end of the century, the total work force will exceed the work force of the 1970s and 1980s. The chapter notes that the work force will include large numbers of older workers and that the number of workers who are disabled or have disabilities will increase significantly.

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Interim Final Rule Issued On Small Business Set-Asides

The Small Business Administration has issued an interim final rule on the eligibility of organizations representing persons with disabilities for the Small Business Set-Aside Program. SBA is amending its regulations to enlarge the class of organizations eligible for award of Small Business Set-Aside contracts to include public and private organizations for the handicapped under which such organizations may qualify for awards and to provide methods to consider protests of eligibility of organizations for the handicapped. The Administration will also review regulations governing the appeals of small businesses alleging prospective severe economic injury when specific awards are made to organizations on behalf of persons with disabilities.

According to the wonderful notice, February 21, 1990 Federal Register, the SBA Reauthorization and Amendment Act of 1988 (Public Law 1-590), enlarged "eligibility for award of small business set-aside contracts to include public and private organizations for persons with disabilities. Small Business Set-Aide procurements are restricted to firms which qualify as small business under the definitions established by SBA. In addition to expanding eligibility for the set-asides, the law defines the terms under which the organizations may qualify for such awards; and, also establish a right of appeal for small businesses which experience, or are likely to experience, "severe economic injury" as a result of a proposed award to an organization representing persons with disabilities. The method which has been determined by SBA to be the most suitable is for alleviating economic injury is to assure that the affected small business has the opportunity to win award of the contract in question; and this is also the method for fulfilling the statutory obligation which is least disruptive to the procurement process. It is therefore SBA policy, when severe economic injury is found, to seek award of the contract without regard to offers by organizations for persons with disabilities."

The Small Business Administration is requesting comments no later than March 2, 1990. Written comments should be addressed to: Associate Administrator for Procurement Assistance, Small Business Administration, 1441 L Street, N.W., Room 600, Washington, D.C. 20416. Facility interested in commenting on this rule may further information by contacting Gene Van Aalst, Director, Office of Procurement Policy and Liaison, at (202) 653-6568.

NARF was instrumental in reinstating the Small Business Set-Aide for five years after the SBA Program was reauthorized in 1988. Facilities who wish to have an opportunity to bid on Small Business Set-Aide contracts should submit their comments to the proposed rule.

University of Southern California Holds Human Assistance Policy Conference

February 28 - March 1, 1990 Washington, D.C.

The University of Southern California's Washington Public Affairs Center (WPAC) is sponsoring the Human Assistance Policy Conference to be held at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, from February 28 to March 1, 1990. The theme of the conference will be "New Directions in Human Assistance: Forging Public Assistance and Self-Help Partnerships for Individual, Family, and Community Development."

The conference includes two simultaneous workshops that will focus on individual successes in overcoming dependency and ways to redirect public assistance programs to achieve that goal. Registration will be open at 12:30 P.M. with workshops beginning promptly at 1:30 p.m.

The two workshops are:

• "Pursuing the Economic Independence for Persons with Disabilities" (February 28), and "Resident Management and Ownership of Public Housing" (March 1).

For further information contact: University of Southern California, Washington Public Affairs Center, 512 Tenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004, ATTN: Human Assistance Policy Program; (202) 638-4949.

ICD's Upcoming Seminars

April 4 (3 p.m. - 5 p.m.)
Substances of Abuse: Neuropharmacology Effects and Abuse Patterns. Presented by Peter S. Ph.D., Vice President of Clinical Services, Samaritan Village, Inc., Rego Park, NY. Fee: $100 in advance, $150 at door.

April 25 (3 p.m. - 5 p.m.)
Brain and Psyche: Determinants of Functional Disability After Minor Head Injury. Presented by Thomas E. Kay, Ph.D., Director of Research, NY University Research and Training Center on Head Trauma in Washington, DC. $10 in advance, $150 at door.

May 9 (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

May 10 (9 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

May 24 (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Jeanne K. Drzenko at (212) 679-0100, ext. 289.

Employment Exchange

McKinley Area Services for the Handicapped is searching for an executive director for a community-based program for the developmentally disabled, serving 120+ clients in early childhood, vocational and residential programs. $90,000 annual budget. Applicants must have a Master's degree with significant, relevant administrative and programmatic experience. The successful applicant will demonstrate superior skills relating to funding/monitoring agency interaction. Experience in budgeting, finances and grant writing a plus. Salary: D.O.E.

The closing date is February 28, 1990. Send resume and letter of introduction to: Executive Director's Search Committee, McKinley Area Services for the Handicapped, Inc., P.O. Box 1332, Gallup, NM 87305; (505) 722-4383.

Speech-Language Pathologist

Arrowhead West, Inc. has a full-time position available for a speech-language pathologist who will be working with pre-school children and adults with disabilities. Requires Master's degree and must be eligible for Kansas teaching certificate. Prefer Certification in Clinical Competency. Excellent benefits. Contact Arrowhead West, Inc., P.O. Box 1353, Dodge City, KS 67801. E.O.E. M/F/H.

Executive Program Director

An executive director is sought to implement a new, three to five-year Federally-funded program of national significance to improve the access of persons with disabilities to assistive technology. The grant budget is funded through the Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services.

Responsibilities: Hires and directs a professional staff of five employees. Responsibilities include: establish project office; conduct statewide resource assessment; establish a central data base and a statewide, networked information and referral system; develop statewide training; design and implement statewide, community-based service delivery models; conduct public funding study; work with for-profit sector and affiliated state agency staffs.

Advanced degree or commensurate experience demonstrated. Excellent communication and technical assistance. Knowledge of rehabilitation or a related field and at least three years' related experience. Salary D.O.E.
New Supported Employment Publications Available from NARF

1990 Supported Employment Resource Guide — An updated and expanded version of the 1989 Supported Employment Resource Guide will be available in January, 1990. Topic areas include Administration and Business Concerns; Future, Global, and Policy Issues; Techniques; and Outcomes. An excellent resource for those involved in and interested in supported employment. Cost is $5.00 for non-members. This publication is free to NARF members.

Exemplary Supported Employment Practices — A review of the eight sites selected for their exemplary outcomes and services to supported employees. Also includes a discussion of the selection criteria and methodology, as well as an analysis of common strategies, problems, and directions for the eight sites. Cost is $3.50 for NARF members and $6.50 for non-members.

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All orders must be accompanied by payment or a $4.50 charge will be added for invoicing. Please make checks payable to NARF. Send the above form to NARF, P.O. Box 17675, Washington, D.C. 20041.