SOCIAL ISSUES/ WOMEN'S ISSUES/ PARENTAL LEAVE

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

The federal government should not mandate parental leave. However, due to enormous changes in the workplace over the past decade and because of the need to re-establish our nation's competitive edge economically, we should encourage private efforts to establish flexible standards allowing workers with newborn children, seriously ill family members, and those in similar circumstances to follow through on important family-related work.

###
Abortion is one of the most difficult issues of our time. I have devoted much time and careful thought to this issue over the years. I am opposed to abortion except when the life of the mother is threatened or when there is rape or incest.
I support a Constitutional Amendment that would reverse the Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision on abortion made in 1973. I also support a human life amendment with an exception for the life of the mother, rape, or incest. In addition, I oppose the use of federal funds to pay for abortion except when the life of the mother is threatened.

Frankly, while I have long opposed abortion, there has been an evolution in my thinking on the legal means by which we protect the sanctity of human life. Since the Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision in 1973, there have been about 18 million abortions in this country. This is a tragedy of shattering proportions. It brings a renewed sense of urgency to adoption of a Constitutional Amendment to overturn Roe v. Wade and the effort for a human life amendment.

I oppose the Supreme Court’s ruling in Roe v. Wade and federal funding for abortions except when the life of the mother is threatened.

###
NO: 407020
DATE: 6/13/88

ABORTION – FEDERAL FUNDING

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT

GEORGE BUSH

I support a Constitutional Amendment that would reverse the Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision on abortion made in 1973. I also support a human life amendment with an exception for the life of the mother, rape, or incest. In addition, I oppose the use of federal funds to pay for abortion except when the life of the mother is threatened.

###
ABORTION/ BIRTH CONTROL & MINORS

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

I am against supplying birth control AIDS to minors without parental consent. As I said to Pope John Paul II, "Our land is built on freedom -- but as you have taught, 'Freedom develops best if it keeps to the rules of morality.'" We must teach our children the difference between right and wrong, honesty and dishonesty, liberty and license -- in our homes and in our churches and in our schools.

###
AIDS

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT

GEORGE BUSH

AIDS is the greatest health threat that we face, and we must take decisive action. As President, my Administration will wage an all-out war against AIDS on two fronts -- education and scientific research. Let me emphasize, it will be an all-out war against the disease, not against the people who have it. Right now, education is our best weapon. We've got to get the facts about AIDS into the hands of the American people. And we've got to do it in a thoughtful, sensitive manner. At the same time, we must work toward finding a cure and vaccine. We must tell the American people and the scientific community that we have the will to find a vaccine and cure for this killer. Everyone -- federal, state, local governments, scientists, and educators, -- must all work together to fight this deadly disease and to insure that neighbor does not turn against neighbor.

I chair the President's Task Force Regulatory Relief and we've worked with the Food and Drug Administration to accelerate the availability of experimental drugs to AIDS patients. We did this to encourage more research and development on potential AIDS vaccines by the private sector. Our efforts have brought results.

We have learned more about the AIDS virus in the past few years than we knew about polio after 40 years. And recently, there have been reports of very preliminary testing of a vaccine.

Our Administration will spend $1.4 billion on research, education, and treatment this year. That figure will almost equal the total amount of money spent on AIDS since 1982, when the federal government first spent funds.

But research alone is not enough. We must protect those the disease has not yet touched. Those at high risk must be educated on how to avoid contracting the disease. The only guaranteed way to halt the spread of AIDS is a change in behavior.

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AIDS
Page 2

Depending on local standards, and with the full involvement of parents and school officials, education about AIDS should be incorporated into the school curriculum. If the curriculum is well-planned and thoughtfully carried out, we can teach children the facts about sexually transmitted diseases -- and AIDS in particular. This kind of education can and should be non-threatening. It should teach traditional values as well as the facts. It should teach morality. It should help develop the child's own sense of responsibility. And it should strengthen the concept of the family. We know that the sharing of needles in intravenous drug use is a major way that AIDS is transmitted. This fact should also be included in materials for drug education.

Thus, we have made the decision that there must be more testing. The federal government will soon require testing for prisoners, immigrants and aliens seeking permanent residence. Tests are already being conducted in the military and in the foreign service. I support encouraging the states to offer routine testing for those who seek marriage licenses.

Of course, any mention of testing must be hurriedly followed by the word confidentiality. If society feels compelled, in some circumstances, to test its citizens, then it is absolutely imperative that help be made available to those who test positive. We need testing, but only accompanied by guarantees that everyone is treated fairly and compassionately.

Finally, I support actions by the states to make it a crime to knowingly expose innocent people to the AIDS virus.

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AIDS - FEDERAL FUNDING LEVELS

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

Meanwhile, our government will spend $766 million this year and close to $1 billion next year on AIDS. And as we look into the 1990’s we may have to spend even more.

But money alone won’t stop AIDS.

(LA TIMES)
This year, the federal government will spend $766 million on AIDS. Next year, the figure will be $1 billion, and because these figures do not include state and private aid, the total is even higher. While we have a long way to go, we are beginning to see some results. We have learned more about the AIDS virus in a few years than we did about polio after 40 years. Recently, there have been reports of very preliminary testing of a vaccine. We must ensure that FDA drug approval processes do not inhibit the new generation of wonder drugs.

But more than just spending money, we must also tell parents, students, and people throughout America in a thoughtful and sensitive manner the facts about AIDS and what they can do to protect themselves.

###
AIDS - TESTING

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT

GEORGE BUSH

The issue of testing raises some difficult and troublesome questions for me. It puts in conflict the need for more information and knowledge to benefit the majority versus our basic Constitutional right to privacy. And it is the responsibility of the political leadership of the country to decide among these competing principles.

Ultimately, we must protect those who do not have the disease. Thus, we have made the decision that there must be more testing. The government will require testing of prisoners, immigrants, and aliens seeking permanent residence. Tests are being conducted in the military and in the foreign service. Additionally, we are encouraging the states to offer routine testing for those who seek marriage licenses and for those who visit sexually transmitted disease or drug abuse clinics. We are also encouraging states to require routine testing in state and local prisons.

Of course, any mention of testing must be hurriedly followed by the word, "confidentiality." If society feels compelled, in some circumstances, to test its citizens, then it is absolutely imperative that those records are kept appropriately confidential. It is also imperative that help be available to those who test positively. We need testing, but only accompanied by guarantees that everyone is treated fairly.

There must be more testing. The federal government will soon require testing for prisoners, immigrants, and aliens seeking permanent residence. Tests are already being conducted in the military and in the foreign service. Additionally, we are encouraging the states to offer routine testing for those who seek marriage licenses and for those who visit sexually transmitted disease or drug abuse clinics. We are also encouraging states to require routine testing in state and local prisons. Of course, any mention of testing must be hurriedly followed by the word, "confidentiality." If society feels compelled, in some circumstances, to test its citizens, then it
Page 2

is absolutely imperative that help be made available to those who test positive. We need testing, but only accompanied by guarantees that everyone is treated fairly."
AIDS - RESEARCH

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

We must commit the resources and the will to find a cure. American science must know that we have the resolve to beat this disease. I believe that continued research on the virus combined with public education and testing are the best path to curb the spread of AIDS.

(LA TIMES)

This year, the federal government will spend $766 million on AIDS. Next year, the figure will be $1 billion, and because these figures do not include state and private aid, the total is even higher. While we have a long way to go, we are beginning to see some results. We have learned more about the AIDS virus in a few years than we did about polio after 40 years. Recently, there have been reports of very preliminary testing of a vaccine. We must ensure that FDA drug approval processes do not inhibit the new generation of wonder drugs.

But more than just spending money, we must also tell parents, students, and people throughout America in a thoughtful and sensitive manner the facts about AIDS and what they can do to protect themselves.

###
AIDS - EDUCATION

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT

GEORGE BUSH

Money alone won't stop AIDS.

Those at high risk must be educated on how to avoid contracting the disease. The only guaranteed way to halt the spread of AIDS, given what we know now, is a change of behavior. And those at risk will not change unless they know of the terrible dangers they face.

The most important thing we can do is to tell our people the facts about AIDS and what they can do to protect themselves. We've got to put into the hands of parents and students and people throughout America essential facts about AIDS in a thoughtful, sensitive manner.

I believe that education is primarily a local matter. Parents and the community should control what goes on in their schools. That system has worked well for more than 200 years and I don't want to change it. I don't want the federal government to mandate some insensitive educational program.

Most schools now offer some kind of sex education during the junior high or middle school years. Depending on local standards and after a meeting of the minds with parents and school officials, education about AIDS should be incorporated into the curriculum. If the curriculum is well-planned and thoughtfully carried out, we can teach children the facts about sexually transmitted diseases -- and AIDS in particular.

This kind of education can and should be non-threatening. It should teach traditional values. It should teach traditional morality. It should help develop the child's own sense of personal responsibility. And it should strengthen the concept of the family.

When it comes to educating our young people about AIDS, we must all work together -- parents, educators, religious, and community leaders, medical doctors, and scientists.

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SOCIAL ISSUES/AIDS/RESTRICTIONS

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

Questions regarding restrictions on AIDS patients are best left to the states.

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SOCIAL ISSUES/AIDS/IV DRUG USERS

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

We know that the sharing of needles in intravenous drug use is a major way that AIDS can be transmitted. This fact should be included in materials for AIDS education. And the spread of AIDS through this means brings new urgency to our existing programs to control drug abuse. Materials in this program should emphasize also the dangers of contracting AIDS from drug use.

###
NO: 411000
DATE: 6/13/88

DRUGS/GENERAL

STATEMENT BY VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

Drugs are a cancer on our society. The war on drugs will be a top priority of my Administration. My involvement in this effort began in 1982, when I became the head of the South Florida Task Force, designed to improve efforts at drug interdiction. We have had some good results in stopping this poison at the borders. But drug abuse must be attacked not only by stopping the supply, but also by stopping the demand. We have to educate our children about the dangers of drugs.

To attack the supply, we must fight to keep drugs out of our boarders -- and also stop distribution of drugs within our borders. One of my proudest accomplishments as Vice President was the development in 1982 of the South Florida Task Force, which organized all our law enforcement agencies in that area into a comprehensive fight against drug traffickers. This effort led to the broader scale National Narcotics border Interdiction System, which I head. Under the Justice Department, we also established 13 Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces focused on the investigation and prosecution of major drug traffickers. There is much more we have done, but the important point is that it is vital that we build on these efforts and press forward to eliminate the supply of drugs on our nations' streets.

The other part of the problem is limiting the demand for drugs. We must educate young people about the dangers of drugs and, perhaps more important, instill in them values and goals that are inconsistent with using drugs. The drug problem will disappear when we are successful at eliminating in our young people the desire to use drugs. That should be a major focus of our efforts.

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"The drug crisis now includes affluent lawyers, doctors and investment bankers who do not regard their new pastime as anything more or less than trendy and fashionable."

UPI
9/11/86
Drugs are a cancer on our society. The war on drugs will be a top priority of my Administration. That war must be fought on two fronts: supply and demand. Vigorous law enforcement against drug trafficking must continue, and we must increase public awareness of the utter destructiveness of drug abuse.

As Vice President, I have been in the leadership of our national crusade against drugs. One of my proudest accomplishments was the establishment of the South Florida Task Force in 1982 to fight the drug smuggling crisis in South Florida. The Task Force organized all our federal law enforcement agencies, working closely with their state and local counterparts, in a comprehensive attack on drug trafficking. The success of this landmark approach to drug law enforcement led to the establishment of such programs as the National Narcotics Border Interdiction System which I have the privilege to head.

Also, progress has been made as a result of the high priority which has been given to our anti-drug efforts. The drug law enforcement budget has more than tripled, drug seizures are at an all-time high, and federal arrests of major drug traffickers have increased 300 percent. Landmark legislative initiatives have been enacted including permitting military support for drug law enforcement, authorizing the seizure of assets from drug traffickers, strengthening penalties for drug offenses, and initiating important drug education and treatment programs. In addition, we have undertaken an extensive effort at eliminating drugs at the source -- in the drug producing countries. Today, drug eradication programs are underway in 20 source countries.

But more must be done, particularly with respect to educating our children on the dangers of drug abuse. The war on drugs is a marathon, not a sprint, and I’m committed to doing everything necessary to insure the ultimate defeat of this plague upon our society.

###
NO: 411011
DATE: 6/29/88

DRUGS/LEGALIZATION

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

To those who say drugs should be legalized, I say this -- legalization is just another word for surrender -- and surrender is not in America's vocabulary.

###
NO: 411030
DATE: 6/29/88

DRUGS/GLOBAL COOPERATION

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

The most pressing matter on the urban agenda is the scourge of drug abuse. The very fabric of our society is being threatened by narcotics, and the economic cost is staggering. Illegal drugs cost the United States hundreds of billions of dollars each year. The social costs, though, are devastating. Our Administration has made some progress, but frankly, we are barely holding our own. We’ve convinced more countries to become involved in eradicating drug crops on their soil, and we’ve seized record amounts of drugs.

This is a global problem. As such, it will be given an even higher priority in our dealings with foreign governments. Eradication of drug supplies from home and abroad will be one of the highest priorities of the Bush Administration. We should create an international strike force to hit back quick, hard, and often at foreign drug operations. Stepped-up intelligence is essential in this effort.

I will put my Vice President in charge of a Cabinet-level "Council of War" on drugs. The Vice President will take the lead in every aspect of federal drug policy -- interdiction, law enforcement, education, and rehabilitation. The Vice President will have the power and the authority from the President that is required to do the job.

###
NO: 411040
DATE: 6/22/88

MANDATORY DRUG TESTING

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

In some communities, casual drug use is treated less seriously than jaywalking. That's got to stop. There's nothing casual about the drug trade that's tearing our cities apart, and drug users are the fuel of the fire, whether they live in the suburbs or downtown.

The new "zero tolerance" policy -- the one that's led to the seizure of cars and planes and yachts -- is important not because it will stop the flow of drugs into this country, but because it sends the right message: No amount of drug use is acceptable.

Some call this policy controversial. I think it makes great sense. If people can lose their cars for parking violations, then surely they should lose them for carrying drugs. "Zero tolerance" should be the policy of every state in the Union.

Zero tolerance should also be the policy of the American workplace. Drug abuse among American workers costs businesses anywhere from $60 billion to $100 billion a year in lost productivity, absenteeism, drug-related accidents, medical claims, and theft.

In this increasingly competitive world marketplace, we can't afford to show up for work impaired. We can't beat foreign competitors if we don't beat foreign substances.

Employers can discourage drug use with testing, assistance, and follow-up. The military has such a program, and it has cut the incidence of drug use by two-thirds in the last eight years -- from 27 percent to nine percent. Testing for drug use should be required of anyone responsible for the public safety -- airline pilots, for example, or prison guards. Indeed, testing should be required of anyone whose actions at work could put others at risk.

The federal government should not dictate what kind of drug-free program a company should have, but it should require any federal contractor to have one in place. These programs

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don’t cost, they pay. Absenteeism improves, productivity rises, and accident rates drop -- dramatically. One study has shown that drug users are five times more likely to file a workmen’s compensation claim.

The point is that stopping drug use in the workplace is not just a profit-and-loss issue, it’s a matter of protecting the health and safety of the workers. It’s no less important than OSHA regulations on the condition of machinery. It is a point on which management and labor should agree. Drug use is job abuse.

There are those who say that drug testing is an invasion of individual rights. But the use of drugs is not just a personal matter, like buying a dress or car -- it’s a matter that affects the lives of others. We’ve run out of patience, and we’ve run out of pity. And it’s time to say: We’ve had enough.

###
NO: 411060
DATE: 6/29/88

DRUGS/ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

As President, I will insist on stronger penalties for drug offenses. We should have mandatory sentences for drug dealers and the message we send should be clear: if you’re going to deal in drugs, you’re going to do time. I want to see drug dealers behind the iron bars of prison.

For major drug traffickers and for those who commit drug-related murders, the penalty should be death. We must do more in interdiction, law enforcement, education, and rehabilitation. Also, the glamour of drug use must be reduced, profit margins of drug sales must be eliminated, and penalties strengthened. I am particularly saddened at the extent to which children have become involved in the tragic cycle of drug abuse and the drug economy.

I am personally committed to make available every federal resource to fight and to win the war against drugs.

###
HEALTH CARE/GENERAL

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT

GEORGE BUSH

I am committed to ensuring that our country has an effective health care system; and as President, I will continue the federal government's vital role in providing care for the truly needy. However, we now spend eleven percent of our GNP on medical care, more than any other industrialized country. We must find ways of covering the costs of health care -- without sacrificing its quality.

A Bush Administration will address this problem by controlling costs and providing more comprehensive coverage under Medicare.

Several principles must guide this effort. First, the less that government is involved in the day-to-day administration of health care, the more efficiently it will run -- which, of course, means that we should shun the various Democrat health care proposals which would involve government bureaucrats in people's personal health care decisions. Second, more efficient administration of health care must be encouraged -- and, in particular, the government health programs such as Medicaid and Medicare should not fund waste and inefficiency. And third, we must limit the incentives and ability for patients to file frivolous malpractice suits which drive health care costs up for all Americans.

I have supported the Administration's effort to slow the increase in hospital costs through the institution of the Prospective Payment System. I believe that many of these same techniques can be applied to physician and outpatient services as well. But, I am skeptical of regulatory schemes that could have the unintended effect of lowering the quality of health care.

We also need to do more to promote the option of enrolling in innovative plans such as Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO) and to induce competition among health care providers.

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Efficiencies are possible by making government -- as well as private insurers -- better consumers, and by creating the right kinds of tax and program incentives for efficient, high-quality health care services.

The immediate threat to health care for the elderly is the fact that Medicare Trust Funds are likely to go bankrupt within the next ten years. We must address this problem with a bipartisan solution before it is too late. In the meantime, we should exempt Social Security from budget cuts and avoid means-testing it. As America's population grows older we must ensure that future benefits can be counted on years in advance.

LONG-TERM CARE

One of the most pressing issues is catastrophic care. Our seniors must be free from financial ruin because of catastrophic illness, and we must look for innovative solutions to the problem of long-term care.

Unquestionably, the catastrophic cost of long-term care for chronic illness and disability is a major worry for today's senior citizens. 1.5 million Americans are in nursing homes; many more are cared for at home. The problem will increase as America ages.

We must have a program that makes sure the cost of this care does not tear families apart and that it is fiscally responsible.

I have proposed a program that includes the following points:

* We should change the tax code to provide incentives for those who can afford to pay for long-term care using group plan insurance.

* We should allow conversion of IRAs, savings accounts and life insurance so people can pay for long-term health care.
For those seniors who cannot afford long-term care insurance, we should change Medicaid requirements that force people to "spend down" their life savings before being eligible for assistance.

In order to eliminate the major causes of long-term, chronic disability, we should also continue to fund at adequate levels research on diseases such as Alzheimer's and strokes.

AIDS

We must do all we can do to stop the spread of AIDS in this country. We must look for innovative solutions to this staggering problem. The price of caring for victims of the disease is enormous and it will put an unbearable strain on both public and private financial resources.

We must commit the resources and the will to find a cure. American science must know that we have the resolve to beat this disease. I believe that continued research on the virus combined with public education and testing are the best path to curb the spread of AIDS.

As Vice President, I chair the President’s Task Force on Regulatory Relief and earlier this year we worked with the Food and Drug Administration to accelerate the availability of experimental drugs to AIDS patients. We did this to encourage more research and development on potential AIDS vaccines by the private sector.

Our government spent $766 million last year and will spend close to $1 billion this year on AIDS. And as we look into the 1990’s we may have to spend even more.

But money alone won’t stop AIDS.

Those at high risk must be educated on how to avoid contracting the disease. The only guaranteed way to halt the spread of AIDS, given what we know now, is a change of behavior. And those at risk will not change unless they know of the terrible dangers they face.

I believe that education is primarily a local matter. Parents and the community should control what goes on in their schools. That system has worked well for more than 200 years and I don’t want to change it.
The most important thing we can do is to tell our people the facts about AIDS and what they can do to protect themselves. We’ve got to put into the hands of parents and students and people throughout America essential facts about AIDS in a thoughtful, sensitive manner.

The issue of testing raises some difficult and troublesome questions for me. It puts in conflict the need for more information and knowledge to benefit the majority versus our basic Constitutional right to privacy. And it is the responsibility of the political leadership of the country to decide among these competing principles.

Ultimately, we must protect those who do not have the disease. Thus, we have made the decision that there must be more testing. We are encouraging the states to offer routine testing for those who seek marriage licenses and for those who visit sexually transmitted disease or drug abuse clinics. We are also encouraging states to require routine testing in state and local prisons.

Of course, any mention of testing must be hurriedly followed by the word, "confidentiality." If society feels compelled, in some circumstances, to test its citizens, then it is absolutely imperative that those records are kept appropriately confidential. It is also imperative that help be available to those who test positive. We need testing, but only accompanied by guarantees that everyone is treated fairly.

CHILDREN

As a family man with four sons, one daughter, and ten grandchildren, I am very much aware of the problems facing American families and their children. I have felt the deep joy of being able to provide for my wife and children. I understand the comfort parents feel knowing that their children are properly cared for. I am a man who knows in his heart that it all comes to family -- that all our best endeavors come back to that core.

As President, I would most certainly make children’s issues a top priority. This nation’s children represent our future -- and our responsibility. Good health care and nutrition, sound education, and access to safe child day care should be of concern to all of us. These are vital issues which my administration will address.

# # #
HEALTH

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT

GEORGE BUSH

Health care will be a high priority of a Bush Administration. Americans are living longer than ever before, and the infant mortality rate is falling. Yet we can still improve America's health care system. We spend more than 11 percent of our gross national product on health -- more than any other nation in the world. But we have to do more than focus on quantity. We must focus on quality of health care available in rural areas and inner cities. We need to improve the quality of prenatal care available to pregnant women. We must be sure that America's children have adequate access to health care. Our goal should be to provide the best health care in the world at an affordable cost.

In particular, we must continue our fight against drug abuse, and take steps to halt the spread of AIDS -- through responsible education about the disease and how it is transmitted and through research and medical technology. We have declared a war on AIDS -- not on the people who are afflicted with AIDS -- but on the disease itself. We must find a vaccine and cure for AIDS. But also, we must get accurate information about how this dreadful disease is spread into the hands of the American people. Education is vital, and education must include the teaching of values; it must include teaching morality.

We also need to continue economic policies that encourage our pharmaceutical industry to be innovative and competitive in world markets. As leader of the Task Force of Regulatory Relief, I have devoted much time to this effort.

Another high priority to improve Americans' health is to stem the rise in medical costs by focusing on preventive care and by ensuring that government health programs such as Medicare and Medicaid will not pay for waste and inefficiency -- saving these needed dollars to care for our older and low-income Americans.

Our seniors must not be impoverished by long term and catastrophic illness. Our Administration's proposal on catastrophic care is winding through Congress. I have proposed a plan that provides incentives for individuals and their families to take the lead on providing for long-term care with the government ensuring that families don't have to become poor before help is available.  

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I agree with the sentiments of the British statesman Benjamin Disraeli: "The health of people is really the foundation upon which all their happiness and all their power as a state depend." Taking steps to improve Americans' health will be a high priority of the Bush Administration.

Above all, we need to ensure that health care costs are controlled while preserving the quality of health care which Americans deserve.

###
INDUSTRIES/ HEALTH CARE/ COSTS

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT

GEORGE BUSH

Clearly, the rise in health care costs must be slowed. A Bush Administration will address this problem by both controlling costs and providing more comprehensive coverage under Medicare.

First, I supported the Administration’s effort to slow the increase in hospital costs through the institution of the Prospective Payment System. I believe that many of these same techniques can be applied to physician and out-patient services as well. But I am skeptical of such regulatory schemes because they could have the unintended effect of lowering the quality of health care.

In addition, we need to do more to promote the option of enrolling in innovative plans as Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO) and to induce competition among health care providers. Efficiencies are possible by making government -- as well as private insurers -- better consumers and by creating the right kinds of tax and program incentives for efficient, high-quality health care services.

###
Sen. Quayle announces health care plans INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — The nation's high health bill and national deficit are in need of immediate care, Sen. Dan Quayle, R-Ind., said Tuesday.

"It is a major national issue and one I wish to monitor very carefully," he said.

"One of the most important policy questions facing our nation today is how we can best reduce the costs that patients, businesses and government must pay for health services," Quayle said.

Quayle said he prefers to "inject additional doses of competition into the system" instead of seeking cost-containment through government regulation, which would only breed inefficiency.

"What we should be seeking are approaches that give everyone involved incentives to increase the system's efficiency and thereby reduce the costs of health care," he said.

National health care costs have increased from $26 billion in 1960 to $322.4 billion in 1982, Quayle said.

UPI   1/13/84
INDUSTRIES/ HEALTH CARE/ FEDERAL ROLE

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
GEORGE BUSH

This year, our Administration has proposed a far-reaching catastrophic care proposal that will remove the risk of financial ruin from a devastating hospitalization.

Unquestionably, the catastrophic cost of long-term care for chronic illness and disability is a major worry for today's senior citizens. I strongly support the Administration's proposal to broaden Medicare coverage to cover many acute care catastrophic expenses.

To be successful, I believe that any federal strategy addressing the problem of long-term care will need to proceed along two paths. First, we need to support research for treatments to eliminate the major causes of long-term, chronic disability, such as osteoporosis, Alzheimer's disease, and strokes.

Second, we must enact cost-effective measures to reinforce the current system of home care under which families of disabled older people provide long-term care for their loved ones. There must be more flexibility within our Medicare and Medicaid systems so that benefits are not denied in situations of non-institutional care. The current allowance of waivers under these programs must be expanded to permit more development of innovative and efficient methods of care.

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NO: 707070  
DATE: 7/26/88

SOCIAL/ HEALTH CARE/ NURSES

STATEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH

We've got to get more and more people interested in nursing, and that includes not just women but men, minorities, and people who want to re-enter the workforce in mid-career. There are great opportunities for nurses all across America -- and those opportunities are expected to grow and expand.

As our health care system diversifies, professional nurses will be needed in ever-growing numbers to work in HMOs, ambulatory surgery centers, and home health groups. Those patients who need to be hospitalized will require the sophisticated care that must come from professional nurses.

Since 1983 there has been a 25 percent drop in enrollment in nursing schools. By the year 2000, the American Hospital Association estimates that we will have only half of the nurses we need. Obviously, we need to do better than that.

We can begin by promoting a better awareness of what nurses actually do. I think the nursing profession suffers from a lot of misunderstanding.

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