

# Bush 88 Quayle

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 30, 1988

Contact: Leslie Goodman  
(202) 624-8398

## BUSH ANNOUNCES BUSH-QUAYLE '88 DISABILITY COALITION

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Vice President George Bush today announced the national leadership of the Bush-Quayle '88 Disability Coalition. The six honorary co-chairs of the coalition are Mrs. Sarah Brady, wife of Presidential Press Secretary James Brady; U.S. Senator Lowell Weicker of Connecticut; U.S. Senator Robert Dole of Kansas; Mr. Billy Barty, professional actor; Mrs. Madeleine Will, Assistant Secretary of Education, Office of Special Education; and Ms. Ginny Thornburgh, Coordinator for Persons with Disabilities programs, Harvard University.

Vice President Bush said, "I am delighted to have the support and endorsement of this prominent group of individuals who share my feelings that the disabled must be brought into the mainstream of our society. My highest domestic priority as President will be to see that every American who wants a productive job in the private sector has that opportunity. And when I say every American, I mean every American -- including those who happen to be disabled."

Ms. Thornburgh, in commenting on the establishment of the coalition remarked, "I am pleased to serve as an Honorary Chairperson for the Disability Coalition for the Bush/Quayle '88 campaign. Having supported organizations and programs to enhance the lives of persons with disabilities for over twenty years, as President, George Bush will provide a better quality of life for all Americans with disabilities."

Mr. Evan Kemp, Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and a member of the coalition added, "George Bush knows that the proper way to treat disabled people is to treat them as human beings. He is the first national political leader who has sought the advice of individuals with disabilities and the parents of disabled children. His actions over the last seven years have hastened the day when our dream of true integration into society becomes a reality."

-More-



-2-

At the August 10, 1988 White House swearing-in ceremony of Paul Hearne as Executive Director of the National Council on the Handicapped, the Vice President repeated his call for equal rights for the disabled. He stated, "Disabled people do not have the same civil rights protections as women and minorities. However, an enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1988 -- legislation developed by the National Council on the Handicapped or similar legislation -- would remedy this situation."

He added, "The Reagan Administration has been on the right track in opposing the discrimination of the past that has kept too many people with disabilities out of the American mainstream. We should not ignore the needs of the disabled, and must continue to develop programs and policies that promote independence, freedom of choice and productive involvement in the social and economic mainstream."

(Attached is a list of the national leadership of the Bush-Quayle '88 Disability Coalition)

#####