

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Hillary Rodham Clinton
FR: Chris Jennings (CJ)
RE: Senator Chafee's statements on gun control
cc: Melanne, Kim Tilley, Steve R., Ira, Christine, Steve E.
March 19, 1993

Following up on your request, attached is a copy of Senator Chafee's complete April 30, 1992 Senate floor statement regarding guns and their impact on children, education, and health care. Also attached is a June 9, 1992 Washington Post Op Ed piece by Senator Chafee that nicely summarizes the much longer statement and outlines his intention to introduce legislation to ban the sale, manufacture and possession of ALL handguns.

Both statements cite a 1991 Advisory Council on Social Security estimate that concludes that the overall health care cost of firearm injuries (from initial emergency room care and accompanying hospital stays, ambulance services, follow-up visits, and rehabilitation) is more than \$4 BILLION a year. Significantly, 86 percent of this health care treatment tab is underwritten by government sources. The dollars spent on each gun shot injury averages out, according to Chafee, to be approximately \$16,700 per patient.

The two Chafee statements were faxed today to Congressman Reynolds' office. Judging from how quickly he was to jump to publicly recount your (personal and I thought private) general support of the concept behind his legislation (in particular, the provision to tax guns and ammunition), I am sure he will follow-up with your suggestion to hold a conversation with Senator Chafee.