June 30, 2005

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

On behalf of the President, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) submits the enclosed legislative proposal entitled the “The Government Reorganization and Program Performance Improvement Act of 2005.”

This proposal would institutionalize for Congress and the Executive Branch procedures that would strengthen the focus on Government agencies and programs achieving results. Like Congress, the Executive Branch wants programs and agencies to continuously improve their performance on behalf of the American people.

The bill has two primary elements, which are summarized below:

I. Results Commissions
To address program overlap, which often impedes program performance and unnecessarily increases costs, the Administration proposes the creation of Results Commissions. The Results Commissions would consider and revise Administration proposals to restructure or consolidate programs or agencies to improve their performance. Congress would approve the establishment of individual Results Commissions to address single program or policy areas where duplication and the overlapping jurisdictions of Executive Branch agencies or congressional committees hinder reform. Proposals approved by Results Commissions would then be approved by the President and considered by Congress under expedited procedures.

II. Sunset Commission
To further institutionalize Congress’ and the Executive Branch’s focus on results, the Administration also proposes a process by which programs and agencies undergo regular scrutiny before a Sunset Commission. Agencies and programs would be reviewed according to a schedule enacted by the Congress under expedited procedures. The Sunset Commission would consider Presidential proposals to retain, restructure, or terminate programs. Agencies and programs would automatically terminate according to the schedule unless reauthorized by Congress.
This proposal is an important priority of the Administration and part of the President’s effort to achieve the results the American people expect at a reasonable cost. We respectfully request that Congress take prompt and favorable action on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Joshua B. Bolten
Director

Enclosures

Similar Letter Sent to the President of the Senate
June 30, 2005

The Honorable Richard M. Cheney
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

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