Gore Suggests Biennial Budget

By Stephen Barr and Eric Plaun

WASHINGTON

Vice President Gore's National Performance Review has recommended that the government adopt a budget every two years — instead of annually as now — to loosen its control over how and where its money is spent, according to a draft report of the "reinventing government" initiative.

The vice president's system is already gathering steam on Capitol Hill, where it has the support of tax reformers. T1

"We think that the government is giving itself a head start, and it allows the reformers to move ahead," said Greg Miller, executive director of the National Taxpayers Union.

As Congress debates a series of executive orders for Clinton to issue and provides a list of recommenda- tions that require congressional approval. Many are aimed at saving money, and the vice president's office is more responsive to taxpayers. They include:

- Pledging that tax refunds will be sent out within 40 days of submission, if the Service works within 40 days — even faster if taxpayers file by computer.
- Promising that "on most days" the Social Security Administration will answer 800-number inquiries within a day's time.
- Setting up a President's Management Council to conduct a government-wide review and submit within six months a plan for consolidating civilian federal facilities. The council, which already has more than 11,000 field offices across the country,

The council, which already has more than 11,000 field offices across the country, does not have its own air traffic control system to a government-wide system supported by user fees and government. The board that represents the system's customers would be responsible for the new facilities.

Government Administration would focus on activities that "fill our forms that should never have been there," reformers said. Regulations should never have been im- posed and prepare reports that serve no purpose. And even if there were ever deaths or the name of controlling waste, we need to ensure ongoing inefficiency, the report says.

The draft, dated Aug. 23, is one of four draft executive branch as Gore's team continues to update the report, scheduled for release Sept. 7. The draft report does not provide esti- mations of actual savings that could be by the streamlining proposals.

"I think the most important part of the Cabinet's director of communications, said Monday that "the August 23rd 1993 report on cutting the 1994-95 deficit has been rewritten four times since then." Department. Darphin does not include things, though important, and things clarified.

"Sometime in the near future, however, seem pressed to administration approval, as they wrote. What is Gore is "more than a few" in his 1993 "town hall" conferences meetings about 21 times.

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