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HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
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Contact:

Press office: (202) 224.2243

Clinton, Daschle, Cummings and Pelosi Announce 2nd Annual African American Leadership Summit

“From Brown to the Ballot” Summit to discuss issues including education equity, voting rights and job creation

Washington - On Thursday, July 15, 2004, Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY), Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.), U.S. Representative Elijah E. Cummings (D-Md.), Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) will host the 2nd Annual African American Leadership Summit along with CBC Members and House and Senate Democrats.

The theme for this year's Summit is “From Brown To the Ballot.”

Approximately 200 African Americans from across the country will convene in the Senate Dirksen Building, Room G-50, for a day-long discussion on issues of critical importance to African American families including job creation and the economy, voting rights, education equity, affordable healthcare, and international affairs.

Senator Clinton has joined CBC Members and other House and Senate Democrats to invite African American leaders from their respective districts and states to participate in the Summit. The participants represent a variety of different professions and backgrounds and include: business leaders, ministers, mayors, state representatives, former cabinet officials, youth leaders and legal scholars.

"I am excited that so many African American leaders from across the country will be joining my Democratic colleagues and me for the second annual African American Summit on Thursday. This summit is a continuation of the caucuses' ongoing dialogue with leaders in the African American community. I look forward to an informative day and an open dialogue on important national issues such as educational opportunities, voting rights, access to capital, health care, economic issues and international relations – issues that are of great concern to not only African Americans but to all Americans," Senator Clinton said.

"This Summit is an opportunity for Members of Congress and African Americans leaders from across the country to come together and rededicate ourselves to the fulfillment of our shared priorities and values. Now, more than at any other time in recent history, it is imperative that African American communities be fully engaged in the policy process and are a part of the solutions on the critical issues that they face in their daily lives," said CBC Chairman Elijah Cummings.

The Summit will open with a panel discussion from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. titled the "Broader Implications for 40/50." This panel will examine how Congress and its constituents can work together to make the promises of legal milestones including *Brown v. Board of Education* and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 a reality in the lives of all Americans. Monique Conrad, correspondent for Black Entertainment Television, will moderate the panel. Panel participants include:

- The Honorable Rodney Slater, Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
- The Honorable Mary Frances Berry, Chair, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights
- Donna Brazile, Chair, Democratic National Committee Voting Rights Institute
- Dr. William Spriggs, Executive Director, National Urban League Institute for Opportunity and Equality
- Reverend Jeffrey Johnson, Minister of Youth, Empowerment Temple AME Church

The 2nd Annual African American Leadership Summit will conclude with a policy luncheon from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. that will be a call to action message that participants can take back to their respective communities. The Honorable Dennis Archer, President of the American Bar Association will be the luncheon keynote speaker.

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