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No. 01-10
March 7, 2001

GPO PROVIDES PUBLIC ACCESS TO PRESIDENT BUSH'S BUDGET "BLUEPRINT"

On February 28, coinciding with the 11:00 a.m. public release of President Bush's preliminary budget document, "*A Blueprint for New Beginnings: A Responsible Budget for America's Priorities*" in print format, **GPO Access** made the document available online to an expectant public. Located at: www.gpo.gov/usbudget, the 175-page document was downloaded more than 125,000 times in the first 24 hours after the release, and a total of almost 200,000 times in the first 48 hours after the release. The electronic edition of *Blueprint for New Beginnings* was issued in Portable Document Format (PDF), and was made from the typesetting files used to produce the printed edition in order to provide online users with an exact facsimile of the printed book. More than 500 print copies were sold through GPO's main bookstore on the first day of release, and copies were distributed to all of the more than 1300 Federal Depository Libraries nationwide.

A Blueprint for New Beginnings is the public's first look at the Bush administration's budget priorities for fiscal year 2002. The document outlines the President's plan for funding the Federal Government and provides a summary of his fiscal policy. The first half of the book reviews policy initiatives and priorities, while the second half provides summaries of budget levels by agency.

GPO Access (www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess) is the award-winning information dissemination service of the U.S. Government Printing Office. **GPO Access** now averages 26 million document downloads each month. It hosts the official Web sites of 16 Government agencies, and now encompasses

more than 200,000 titles. As an integral part of the Federal Depository Library Program, **GPO Access** maintains all online documents in perpetuity, reflecting its permanent public access policy.

GPO Access has been recognized for excellence several times. In 1999, it was selected as one of the top 50 legal research Web sites for the year by *Law Office Computing* magazine and was designated best research site for laws and best Government site overall by the newsletter *legal.online*. It was chosen as the first recipient of the American Association of Law Libraries' "Public Access to Government Information" award. In 1998, **GPO Access** was named one of the 15 "Best Feds on the Web" by *Government Executive* magazine. The internationally recognized management firm of Booz-Allen and Hamilton, Inc., has called **GPO Access**, "one of the Federal Government's largest and most active Web sites." Other awards have included the prestigious 1995 James Madison Award from the Coalition on Government Information.

(Self-Mailer)



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