

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND  
REHABILITATIVE SERVICES  
REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202**

**INFORMATION MEMORANDUM  
RSA-IM-96-18  
DATE: JUNE 20, 1996**

**TO :** STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES  
(GENERAL)  
STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (BLIND)  
CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS  
REGIONAL REHABILITATION CONTINUING EDUCATION  
PROGRAM  
RSA SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

**SUBJECT :** SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RANDOLPH-SHEPPARD  
ACT 1936-1996

**CONTENT :** Today, June 20, 1996 marks the Sixtieth Anniversary of the  
signing into law of the Randolph-Sheppard Act for blind  
entrepreneurs by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

**Attached is a letter from the President of the United  
States, William Jefferson Clinton, extending congratulations  
to the blind vendors of America on this auspicious occasion.**

**The Randolph-Sheppard Vending Facility Program is a unique  
success story. Operating in nearly every state,  
blind facility managers provide full scale cafeteria service,  
snack bars, vending machine operations, and other retail  
establishments to the American public on a daily basis.**

**While America is a very different place than it was in 1936, the  
Randolph-Sheppard Vending Facility program has endured and  
developed to meet the changing business climate.**

**For these reasons, it is fitting on the occasion of the Sixtieth  
Anniversary that the President of the United States honors this  
employment program and salutes the blind managers and others  
in the program that contribute to its success.**

**Please distribute the attached letter widely to State Business Enterprise staff, Chairs and members of State Committees of Blind Vendors, blind facility managers and members of the Randolph-Sheppard community.**

**INQUIRIES:**

**Please direct any questions concerning the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Randolph-Sheppard Vending Facility Program to Mr. Chester Avery, Director, Division for Blind and Visually Impaired, Room 3229, MES Building, 330 "C" Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-2648, telephone number: (202) 205-9316.**

**Fredric K. Schroeder  
Commissioner**