

POLITICAL NOTES:

Clinton Classmate May Head I.N.S.

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Byline: By KIRK JOHNSON

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Body

Bruce A. Morrison, the former Congressman from Connecticut and the Democratic Party's nominee for governor in 1990, is being prominently mentioned on the list of candidates to be the next director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, officials in Washington and Connecticut say.

Mr. Morrison is no stranger either to immigration law or to President Clinton. In Congress, he was the chairman of the House Judiciary subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees and International Law, and he wrote much of the overhaul of Federal immigration law that took effect in 1990. He also worked with Hillary Rodham Clinton in the 1970's when he was director of New Haven Legal Services and she was chairwoman of the board of the national Legal Services Corporation. Last but not least, he was in Mr. Clinton's 1973 graduating class at Yale University Law School.

Mr. Morrison, who now has a private legal practice in New Haven, said in an interview that he had sent "materials" to Washington, but he declined to say whether sponsorship of his nomination was coming from the White House or Congress, although he said, "People have recommended me on the Hill."

The outcome is far from certain. Mr. Clinton's nominee to be Attorney General, Janet Reno, would oversee the I.N.S. if she is confirmed, and no names for the Justice Department's lesser posts are being formally submitted by the White House until an Attorney General is sworn in and can be consulted.

Alien Issue Hits Florio Aide

One of Gov. Jim Florio's top advisers, his policy and planning chief, Brenda Bacon, has joined the growing list of officeholders and candidates who admit they employed foreign workers as domestic help and did not, until recently, pay the workers' taxes.

Ms. Bacon, who is a longtime friend and adviser to the Governor on health-policy issues, said this week that for nearly three years she employed a woman from Barbados as live-in domestic help to care for her children. Ms. Bacon said she hired the woman in April of 1990, and that two months later the employee and her husband applied for and were granted work certification from the United States Department of Labor. Work authorization was granted by the I.N.S. in 1991.

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Ms. Bacon did not pay the woman's Social Security and Federal and state taxes. However, she said she put them into an escrow account pending the granting of a Social Security account number. None has yet been granted, but Ms. Bacon earlier this month paid \$7,333 in back taxes.

Last month two Republican candidates for Governor, Christine Todd Whitman and Cary Edwards, said they had employed undocumented workers and had failed to pay the workers' taxes.

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