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senior citizens

January 21, 1976

Dear Mrs. Coble:

Thank you very much for writing to Mrs. Ford of the activities of the Clairmont Steppers, including your holiday meals for members who have no place to go and your appearances at nutrition centers. It was a special pleasure to learn of your imaginative and energetic programs.

You each have Mrs. Ford's warmest wishes for continued enjoyment and friendship and for the success of your "bus project."

Sincerely,

Marba S. Perrott
Director of Correspondence
for Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Lee E. Coble
President, The Clairmont Steppers
301 Clairmont Oaks
Decatur, Georgia 30030

AH/mlb



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Sincerely,

MSP

AH

Mrs. Lee E. Coble

President, The Clairmont Steppers

301 Clairmont Oaks

Decatur, Georgia 30030



senior citizen

January 14, 1976

Dear Mr. Grodner:

Thank you for writing to Mrs. Ford of the very saddening passing of Mrs. Grodner and of your desire for the First Lady's thoughts on recommended activities. We were so saddened to learn of your situation and deeply sympathize, hoping that the knowledge of the happiness which you gave will be a source of comfort.

May we suggest your church as a place to share friendship and interests and nursing homes in your area where you might like to read or type letters for others. In addition, ACTION, a federal agency, offers a variety of programs to provide personalized services through citizen participation to people in need. Some of these are programs for Foster Grandparents, Retired Senior Volunteers, and the Service Corps of Retired Executives. The regional office close to you is at 520 University Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin 53715. Also, you might find interesting the tours and other aspects of the American Association of Retired Persons, 1909 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006.

With warmest wishes,

Sincerely,

Marba S. Perrott
Director of Correspondence for Mrs. Ford

Mr. Erwin Grodner
3700 North Sherman Boulevard
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53216



*Senior citizen
happiness*

January 12, 1976

Dear Mr. Hennigan:

Thank you very much for writing to request Mrs. Ford's recommendations of enjoyable activities for your mother, who has been a widow for eight years. You were kind to express concern for your mother's happiness.

In case your mother would like to use her time to help others, we are pleased to let you know that ACTION is a federal agency designed to provide personalized services to people in need through citizen participation. ACTION offers a variety of programs depending upon a person's interests and background. The Pittsburgh office is at 4401 Fifth Avenue.

In the meantime, surely your mother's church, as you mentioned, is a fine source of sharing with others, and she is fortunate to have a son as thoughtful as you.

Sincerely,

Marba S. Perrott
Director of Correspondence for Mrs. Ford

Mr. Paul Hennigan
3535 Villawood Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15227

AH



*Senior Citizens
legislation*

December 31, 1975

Dear Maylene Madick:

Thank you very much for your letter to Mrs. Ford, asking about bills which have been passed in favor of the elderly during the Ford Administration.

It is a pleasure to enclose a copy of the major piece of legislation pertaining to senior citizens and enacted since August 1974--H. R. 3922, "Older Americans Amendments of 1975"--as well as the remarks which President Ford made upon signing it into law (P. L. 94-135).

You have Mrs. Ford's gratitude for your kind good wishes and her warm regards.

Sincerely,

Marba S. Perrott
Director of Correspondence for Mrs. Ford

Maylene Madick
2300 South 25th Street, No. 301
Arlington, Virginia 22206

AH

ENCLOSE PL 94-135 & PRESS RELEASE OF 11/28/75



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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOVEMBER 28, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I have given my approval today to H.R. 3922, "Older Americans Amendments of 1975".

Ten years ago, as a member of the House of Representatives, I voted for the Older Americans Act when it was enacted by the Congress. I also voted for subsequent amendments to the act. I am pleased now to give my approval to this bill which amends the act and extends it for three years. These latest amendments were the result of ten years of experiences in administering the act.

Incorporated in the Older Americans Act, as amended, are certain principles to guide the administration of the act:

- Emphasis will be placed on making services available which will enable older persons to live at home as long as possible.
- Community leaders who best know the needs of their own areas will determine the services for older persons to be started or strengthened.
- The needs of low income, older persons, including minorities, will be given priority in use of Federal funds.
- Efforts will be made to enlist volunteers from all age groups to assist in serving older persons.
- The resources now available to meet the needs of older persons will continue to be coordinated through programs administered by a number of Federal departments and agencies.
- Emphasis will be placed on opening opportunities for older persons to continue to participate constructively in the life of our nation.

I endorse the concept of the Older Americans Act which establishes a system to deliver coordinated comprehensive services at the community level and which is designed to enable older persons to live independent lives in their own residences and to participate in the life of their community.

There are, however, provisions of this act with which I disagree. The provisions concerned with age discrimination on the part of all Federal grantees have been modified to meet many, but not all, objections. The delineation of what constitutes unreasonable age discrimination is so imprecise that it gives little guidance in the development of regulations to prohibit such discrimination. Also, the provisions

more

(OVER)

raise a question on the extent to which the Federal Government should seek to regulate private activity, particularly without holding hearings to permit affected persons and institutions to be heard.

The bill does provide, however, for study of the problems of age discrimination by the Commission on Civil Rights, and allows for these issues to be discussed thoroughly. I urge the Congress to reconsider these problems.

At a time when we are struggling to restrain growth in the Federal budget, I am not pleased to see the high authorization levels included in this bill. The authorization for social service programs for fiscal year 1976, for example, is almost twice that of my budget request. I am confident the members of the Congress share my concern about the impact of inflation on the elderly. I look forward to working with the Congress in determining appropriations levels for this act which will be adequate, equitable and not inflationary.

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(OVER)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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You requested this
some time ago

Ann
Records





Public Law 94-135
94th Congress, H. R. 3922
November 28, 1975

An Act

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish certain social services programs for older Americans and to extend the authorizations of appropriations contained in such Act, to prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Older Americans Amendments of 1975".

Older
Americans
Amendments
of 1975.
42 USC 3001
note.

TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO OLDER AMERICANS ACT OF 1965

TRANSMISSION OF CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO FEDERAL COUNCIL OF AGING

SEC. 101. (a) Section 205(g) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3015(g)) (hereinafter in this title referred to as the "Act") is amended by striking out "eighteen months after enactment of this Act" and inserting in lieu thereof "January 1, 1976."

(b) Section 205(h) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3015(h)) is amended by striking out "eighteen months after enactment of this Act," and inserting in lieu thereof "January 1, 1976."

APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS

SEC. 102. Title II of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3011 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

"APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS

"SEC. 211. The provisions and requirements of the Act of December 5, 1974 (Public Law 93-510; 88 Stat. 1604) shall not apply to the administration of the provisions of this Act or to the administration of any program or activity under this Act."

42 USC 3020a.
42 USC 4251
note.

DEFINITION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

SEC. 103. Section 302(1) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3022(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E) thereof, by striking out "or" at the end thereof; and

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (H) and by inserting immediately after subparagraph (E) the following new subparagraphs:

"(F) services designed to provide legal and other counseling services and assistance, including tax counseling and assistance and financial counseling, to older persons;

"(G) services designed to enable older persons to attain and maintain physical and mental well being through programs of regular physical activity and exercise; or"

89 STAT. 713



GRANTS TO INDIAN TRIBES

SEC. 104. (a) Section 303(b) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3023(b)) is amended by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4) and by inserting immediately after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

"(3) (A) In any State in which the Commissioner determines (after having taken into account the amount of funds available to the State agency or to an appropriate area agency on aging to carry out the purposes of this title) that the members of an Indian tribe are not receiving benefits under this title that are equivalent to benefits provided to other older persons in the State or appropriate area, and if he further determines that the members of such tribe would be better served by means of grants made directly to provide such benefits, he shall reserve from sums that would otherwise be allotted to such State under paragraph (2) not less than 100 per centum nor more than 150 per centum of an amount which bears the same ratio to the State's allotment for the fiscal year involved as the population of all Indians aged sixty or over for whom a determination under this paragraph has been made bears to the population of all persons aged sixty or over in such State.

"(B) The sums reserved by the Commissioner on the basis of his determination under this paragraph shall be granted to the tribal organization serving the individuals for whom such a determination has been made, or where there is no tribal organization, to such other entity as he determines has the capacity to provide services pursuant to this title.

"(C) In order for a tribal organization or other entity to be eligible for a grant for a fiscal year under this paragraph, it shall submit to the Commissioner a plan for such fiscal year which meets such criteria as the Commissioner may prescribe by regulation and which meets criteria established by section 305(a), to the extent the Commissioner determines such criteria to be appropriate.

"(D) Recipients of grants under this paragraph may retain for administrative purposes an amount equal to the amount available for the cost of the administration of area plans under section 303(e)(1)."

(b) Section 102 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3002) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraphs:

"(4) The term 'Indian' means a person who is a member of an Indian tribe.

"(5) The term 'Indian tribe' means any tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians (including any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation as defined in or established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (Public Law 92-203; 85 Stat. 688)) which (A) is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians; or (B) is located on, or in proximity to, a Federal or State reservation or rancheria.

"(6) The term 'tribal organization' means the recognized governing body of any Indian tribe, or any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body. In any case in which a contract is let or grant made to an organization to perform services benefiting more than one Indian tribe, the approval of each such Indian tribe shall be a prerequisite to the letting or making of such contract or grant."

(c) The first sentence of section 303(b)(2) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3023(b)(2)) is amended by striking out "From" and inserting in lieu thereof "Subject to the provisions of paragraph (3), from".

(d) Section 303(b)(4) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3023(b)(4)), as so redesignated by subsection (a), is amended by inserting immediately after "States" a comma and the following: "and the number of Indians aged sixty or over on, or in proximity to, any Federal or State reservation or rancheria".

AREA PLAN REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 105. (a) Section 304(c)(4) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3024(c)(4)) is amended by striking out subparagraph (C) and by redesignating subparagraph (D) through subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (C) through subparagraph (E), respectively.

(b) Section 304 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3024) is amended by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

"(d)(1) Subject to regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, an area agency on aging designated under subsection (a) or, in areas of a State where no such agency has been designated, the State agency, is authorized to enter into agreements with agencies administering programs under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and titles VI, XIX, and XX of the Social Security Act for the purpose of developing and implementing plans for meeting the common need for transportation services of persons receiving benefits under such Acts and older persons participating in programs authorized by titles III and VII of this Act.

"(2) Pursuant to an agreement entered into under paragraph (1), funds appropriated under titles III and VII of this Act may be used to purchase transportation services for older persons and may be pooled with funds made available for the provision of transportation services under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and titles VI, XIX, and XX of the Social Security Act."

29 USC 701 note.
42 USC 801, 1396, 1397.
42 USC 3021, 3045.
Transportation services, funds.

NATIONAL PRIORITY SERVICES

SEC. 106. (a) Section 305(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3025(a)) is amended by striking out "and" immediately after the semicolon in paragraph (8), by striking out the period at the end of paragraph (9) and inserting in lieu thereof a semicolon and "and", and by inserting the following new paragraph immediately after paragraph (9):

"(10) provides assurances in such form as the Commissioner shall prescribe that of the funds allotted to the State under section 303(b) in any fiscal year to carry out the State plan, not less than 50 per centum of the amount by which such allotment exceeds the allotment made for the same purpose in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, shall be used for the purposes set forth in section 305(b), except with respect to any State which provides assurances found satisfactory by the Commissioner that at least 33 1/3 per centum of the total amount allotted to the State under section 303(b) to carry out the State plan in any fiscal year shall be used for the purposes set forth in section 305(b), but in no case shall less than 20 per centum of the funds allotted to any State under section 303(b) to carry out the State plan in any fiscal year beginning after September 30, 1976, be used for the purposes set forth in section 305(b)."

(b) Section 305(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3025(a)) is amended by redesignating subsections (b), (c), (d), and (e) as subsections (c), (d), (e), and (f), respectively, and by inserting the following new subsection immediately after subsection (a):

42 USC 3025.

42 USC 3023.

"Indian."

"Indian tribe."

43 USC 1602.

"Tribal organization."

"(b) Every State plan shall provide for the establishment or maintenance of programs (including related training) for the provision of some or all of the following services designed to assist older persons in leading independent lives and avoiding unnecessary institutionalization:

"(1) Transportation services.

"(2) Home services, including homemaker services, home health services, shopping services, escort services, reader services, letter writing services, and other services designed to assist such persons to continue living independently in a home environment.

"(3) Legal and other counseling services and assistance programs, including tax counseling and assistance and financial counseling, for older persons.

"(4) Residential repair and renovation programs designed to enable older persons to maintain their homes in conformity with minimum housing standards or to adapt homes to meet the needs of elderly persons suffering from physical disabilities."

(c) Section 304(c) (2) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3024(c) (2)) is amended by inserting immediately after "priorities," the following: "and consistent with the provisions of the State plan relating to the services required to be provided under section 305 (a) (10);".

42 USC 3025.

ADMINISTRATION OF STATE PLANS

SEC. 107. (a) Section 306(b) (1) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3026(b) (1)) is amended by striking out "\$160,000" in clause (A) and inserting in lieu thereof "\$200,000", and by striking out "\$50,000" in clause (B) and inserting in lieu thereof "\$62,500".

(b) Section 306(b) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3026(b)) is amended by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4), and by inserting immediately after paragraph (1) the following new paragraphs:

"(2) (A) Any State which desires to receive amounts, in addition to amounts allotted to such State under paragraph (1), to be used in the administration of its State plan in accordance with subsection (a) may transmit an application to the Commissioner in accordance with this paragraph. Any such application shall be transmitted in such form, and according to such procedures, as the Commissioner may require, except that such application may not be made as part of, or as an amendment to, the State plan.

"(B) The Commissioner may approve any application transmitted by a State under subparagraph (A) if the Commissioner determines, based upon a particularized showing of need, that—

"(i) such State will be unable to fully and effectively administer its State plan and to carry out programs and projects authorized by this title and by title VII unless such additional amounts are made available by the Commissioner;

"(ii) such State is making full and effective use of its allotment under paragraph (1) and of the personnel of the State agency and area agencies designated under section 305 in the administration of its State plan in accordance with subsection (a); and

"(iii) the State agency and area agencies of such State designated under section 305 are carrying out, on a full-time basis, programs and activities which are in furtherance of the purposes of this Act.

"(C) The Commissioner may approve that portion of the amount requested by a State in its application under subparagraph (A) which he determines has been justified in such application.

"(D) Amounts which any State may receive in any fiscal year under this paragraph may not exceed three-fourths of 1 per centum of the sum of the amounts allotted to such State to carry out the State plan under section 303(b) and section 703(a) for such fiscal year.

"(E) No application by a State under subparagraph (A) shall be approved unless it contains assurances that no amounts received by such State under this paragraph will be used to hire any person to fill a job opening created by the action of such State in laying off or terminating the employment of any regular employee not supported under this Act in anticipation of filling the vacancy so created by hiring an employee to be supported through use of amounts received under this paragraph.

"(3) Each State shall be entitled to an allotment under this section for any fiscal year in an amount which is not less than the amount of the allotment to which such State was entitled under paragraph (1) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975."

42 USC 3023, 3045b.

MODEL PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 108. Section 308(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3028(a)) is amended by striking out "or" at the end of paragraph (3), by striking out the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting in lieu thereof a semicolon and "or", and by inserting immediately after paragraph (4) the following new paragraphs:

"(5) enable State agencies on aging and other public and private nonprofit organizations to assist in the promotion and development of ombudsman services for residents of nursing homes;

"(6) meet the special needs of, and improve the delivery of services to, older persons who are not receiving adequate services under other provisions of this Act, with emphasis on the needs of low-income, minority, Indian, and limited-English speaking individuals, and the rural elderly; or

"(7) assist older persons to remain within their communities and out of institutions and to maintain their independent living by (A) providing financial assistance for the establishment and operation of senior ambulatory care day centers (providing a planned schedule of health, therapeutic, educational, nutritional, recreational, and social services at least twenty-four hours per week, transportation arrangements at low or no cost for participants to and from the center, a hot mid-day meal, outreach and public information programs, and opportunities for maximum participation of senior participants and senior volunteers in the planning and operation of such center), and (B) maintaining or initiating arrangements (or providing reasonable assurances that such arrangements will be maintained or initiated) with the agency of the State concerned which administers or supervises the administration of a State plan approved under title XIX of the Social Security Act, and with other appropriate social services agencies receiving, or reimbursed through, Federal financial assistance, for the payment of all or a part of such center's costs in providing services to eligible persons."

42 USC 1396.

ATTRACTING QUALIFIED PERSONS TO THE FIELD OF AGING

SEC. 109. Section 403 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3033) is amended by inserting immediately after "education" the following: "as defined in section 1201(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965".

20 USC 1141.

Application for additional funds.

42 USC 3045.

42 USC 3025.

TRAINING PERSONNEL IN THE FIELD OF AGING

SEC. 110. (a) Section 404(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3034(a)) is amended by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6), respectively.

(b) Section 404(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3034(a)) is amended by striking out paragraph (1) and inserting in lieu thereof the following new paragraphs:

"(1) to assist in paying the costs, in whole or in part, of short-term and inservice training courses, workshops, institutes and other activities designed to improve the capabilities of participants to provide services to older persons and to administer programs related to the purposes of this Act,

"(2) to assist in paying the costs, in whole or in part, of post-secondary education courses of training or study related to the purposes of this Act, including the payment of stipends to students enrolled in such courses."

(c) Section 404 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3034) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(c) The Commissioner may make grants under subsection (a) to assist in (1) the training of lawyers and paraprofessional persons who will (A) provide legal (including tax and financial) counseling and services to older persons; or (B) monitor the administration of any program by any public or private nonprofit institution, organization, or agency, or any State or political subdivision of a State, designed to provide assistance or services to older persons, including nursing home programs and other similar programs; and (2) the training of persons employed by or associated with public or private nonprofit agencies or organizations, including a State or political subdivision of a State, who will identify legal problems affecting older persons, develop solutions for such problems, and mobilize the resources of the community to respond to the legal needs of older persons."

PURCHASE AND DONATION OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS BY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

SEC. 111. (a) Section 707 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045f) is amended by inserting "(1)" immediately before the first sentence of subsection (a), by striking out "this section" in subsection (d) each place it appears therein and inserting in lieu thereof "this subsection", by redesignating subsections (b), (c), and (d) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively, by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (b), and by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(c) (1) During each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1975, and June 30, 1976, and during the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, the Secretary of Agriculture shall purchase high protein foods, meat, and meat alternates on the open market, at prices not in excess of market prices, out of funds appropriated under this section, as determined under paragraph (3), for distribution to recipients of grants or contracts to be used for providing nutritional services in accordance with the provisions of this title. High protein food, meat, and meat alternates purchased by the Secretary of Agriculture under this subsection shall be grown and produced in the United States.

"(2) High protein food, meat, and meat alternates donated under this subsection shall not be considered donated commodities for purposes of meeting the requirement of subsection (a)(4) with respect to the annually programmed level of assistance under subsection (a).

"(3) There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary in order to carry out the program established under paragraph (1)."

(b) Section 707(a) (4) of the Act, as so redesignated by subsection (a), is amended by striking out "10 cents per meal:" and inserting in lieu thereof "15 cents per meal during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1976, and 25 cents per meal during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1977:".

(c) Section 707(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045f) is amended in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) by striking out "may" each place it appears therein and inserting in lieu thereof "shall".

(d) Section 707 of the Act, as amended by subsection (a), is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(d) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in any case in which a State has phased out its commodity distribution facilities before June 30, 1974, such State may, for purposes of the programs authorized by this Act, elect to receive cash payments in lieu of donated foods. In any case in which a State makes such an election, the Secretary of Agriculture shall make cash payments to such State in an amount equivalent in value to the donated foods which the State otherwise would have received if such State had retained its commodity distribution facilities.

"(2) When such payments are made, the State agency shall promptly and equitably disburse any cash it receives in lieu of commodities to recipients of grants or contracts. Such disbursements shall be used by such recipients of grants or contracts to purchase United States agricultural commodities and other foods for their nutrition projects."

(e) The first sentence of section 708 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045g) is amended by inserting after "this title" the following: "(other than section 707(c))".

(f) Section 707(a) (4) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045f(a) (4)), as so redesignated by subsection (a), is amended by striking out "subsection (d)" and inserting in lieu thereof "paragraph".

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 112. (a) Section 204(c) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3014(c)) is amended by striking out "and" immediately after "1974," and by inserting immediately after "1975," the following: "the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, and the fiscal years ending September 30, 1977, and 1978."

(b) (1) Section 303(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3023(a)) is amended by striking out "and" immediately after "1974," and by inserting immediately after "1975," the following: "\$180,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, \$57,750,000 for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, \$231,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1977, and \$287,200,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1978."

(2) Section 303(b) (2) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3023(b) (2)) is amended by striking out "and" immediately after "1974," and by inserting immediately after "1975," the following: "for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, and for the fiscal years ending September 30, 1977, and 1978."

(c) Section 308(b) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3028(b)) is amended by striking out "and" immediately after "1974," and by inserting imme-

Appropriation authorization.

42 USC 3045f.

diately after "1975" the following: "the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, and the fiscal years ending September 30, 1977, and 1978".

(d) Section 431 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3037) is amended by striking out "and" immediately after "1974," and by inserting immediately after "1975" the following: "the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, and the fiscal years ending September 30, 1977, and 1978".

(e) Section 505(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3041d(a)) is amended by striking out "and" immediately after "1974," and by inserting immediately after "1975" the following: "the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, and the fiscal years ending September 30, 1977, and 1978".

(f) Section 708 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045g) is amended by striking out "and" immediately after "1976," and by inserting in lieu thereof "\$62,500,000 for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976," and by striking out "June 30, 1977" and inserting in lieu thereof "September 30, 1977, and \$275,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1978".

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

SEC. 113. (a) The Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new title:

"TITLE IX—COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

"SHORT TITLE

"SEC. 901. This title may be cited as the 'Older American Community Service Employment Act'.

"OLDER AMERICAN COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

"SEC. 902. (a) In order to foster and promote useful part-time opportunities in community service activities for unemployed low-income persons who are fifty-five years old or older and who have poor employment prospects, the Secretary of Labor (hereinafter in this title referred to as the 'Secretary') is authorized to establish an older American community service employment program.

"(b) (1) In order to carry out the provisions of this title, the Secretary is authorized to enter into agreements with public or private nonprofit agencies or organizations, including national organizations, agencies of a State government or a political subdivision of a State (having elected or duly appointed governing officials), or a combination of such political subdivisions, or tribal organizations in order to further the purposes and goals of the program. Such agreements may include provisions for the payment of costs, as provided in subsection (c), of projects developed by such organizations and agencies in cooperation with the Secretary in order to make the program effective or to supplement the program. No payment shall be made by the Secretary toward the cost of any project established or administered by any such organization or agency unless he determines that such project—

"(A) will provide employment only for eligible individuals, except for necessary technical, administrative, and supervisory

Older American Community Service Employment Act.

42 USC 3056 note.

Establishment. 42 USC 3056.

personnel, but such personnel shall, to the fullest extent possible, be recruited from among eligible individuals;

"(B) will provide employment for eligible individuals in the community in which such individuals reside, or in nearby communities;

"(C) will employ eligible individuals in services related to publicly owned and operated facilities and projects, or projects sponsored by organizations, other than political parties, exempt from taxation under the provisions of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, except projects involving the construction, operation, or maintenance of any facility used or to be used as a place for sectarian religious instruction or worship;

"(D) will contribute to the general welfare of the community;

"(E) will provide employment for eligible individuals whose opportunities for other suitable public or private paid employment are poor;

"(F) (i) will result in an increase in employment opportunities over those opportunities which would otherwise be available, (ii) will not result in the displacement of currently employed workers (including partial displacement, such as a reduction in the hours of nonovertime work or wages or employment benefits), and (iii) will not impair existing contracts or result in the substitution of Federal funds for other funds in connection with work that would otherwise be performed;

"(G) will not employ or continue to employ any eligible individual to perform work the same or substantially the same as that performed by any other person who is on layoff;

"(H) will utilize methods of recruitment and selection (including listing of job vacancies with the employment agency operated by any State or political subdivision thereof) which will assure that the maximum number of eligible individuals will have an opportunity to participate in the project;

"(I) will include such training as may be necessary to make the most effective use of the skills and talents of those individuals who are participating, and will provide for the payment of the reasonable expenses of individuals being trained, including a reasonable subsistence allowance;

"(J) will assure that safe and healthy conditions of work will be provided, and will assure that persons employed in community service jobs assisted under this title shall be paid wages which shall not be lower than whichever is the highest of (i) the minimum wage which would be applicable to the employee under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, if section 6(a)(1) of such Act applied to the participant and if he were not exempt under section 13 thereof, (ii) the State or local minimum wage for the most nearly comparable covered employment, or (iii) the prevailing rates of pay for persons employed in similar public occupations by the same employer;

"(K) will be established or administered with the advice of persons competent in the field of service in which employment is being provided, and of persons who are knowledgeable with regard to the needs of older persons;

"(L) will authorize pay for necessary transportation costs of eligible individuals which may be incurred in employment in any project funded under this title, in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary;

26 USC 501.

29 USC 201.

“(M) will assure that, to the extent feasible, such project will serve the needs of minority, Indian, and limited English-speaking eligible individuals in proportion to their numbers in the State; and

“(N) will authorize funds to be used, to the extent feasible, to include individuals participating in such project under any State unemployment insurance plan.

“(2) The Secretary is authorized to establish, issue, and amend such regulations as may be necessary to effectively carry out the provisions of this title.

“(c) (1) The Secretary is authorized to pay not to exceed 90 per centum of the cost of any project which is the subject of an agreement entered into under subsection (b), except that the Secretary is authorized to pay all of the costs of any such project which is (A) an emergency or disaster project, or (B) a project located in an economically depressed area, as determined by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of the Community Services Administration.

“(2) The non-Federal share shall be in cash or in kind. In determining the amount of the non-Federal share, the Secretary is authorized to attribute fair market value to services and facilities contributed from non-Federal sources.

“ADMINISTRATION

42 USC 3056a. “SEC. 903. (a) In order to effectively carry out the provisions of this title, the Secretary shall, through the Commissioner of the Administration on Aging, consult with the State agency on aging designated under section 304(a) (1) and the appropriate area agencies on aging established under section 304(a) (2) with regard to—

42 USC 3024.

“(1) the localities in which community service projects of the type authorized by this title are most needed;

“(2) consideration of the employment situations and the type of skills possessed by available local individuals who are eligible to participate; and

“(3) potential projects and the number and percentage of eligible individuals in the local population.

29 USC 961 note.

29 USC 801 note.

42 USC 2701 note.

42 USC 4871 note.

“(b) If the Secretary determines that to do so would increase job opportunities available to individuals under this title, the Secretary is authorized to coordinate the program assisted under this title with programs authorized under the Emergency Jobs and Unemployment Assistance Act of 1974, the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973, the Community Services Act of 1974, and the Emergency Employment Act of 1971. Appropriations under this Act may not be used to carry out any program under the Emergency Jobs and Unemployment Assistance Act of 1974, the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973, the Community Services Act of 1974, or the Emergency Employment Act of 1971.

“(c) In carrying out the provisions of this title, the Secretary is authorized to use, with their consent, the services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of Federal and other agencies with or without reimbursement, and on a similar basis to cooperate with other public and private agencies and instrumentalities in the use of services, equipment, and facilities.

“(d) Payments under this title may be made in advance or by way of reimbursement and in such installments as the Secretary may determine.

“(e) The Secretary shall not delegate any function of the Secretary under this title to any other department or agency of the Federal Government.

“PARTICIPANTS NOT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

“SEC. 904. (a) Eligible individuals who are employed in any project funded under this title shall not be considered to be Federal employees as a result of such employment and shall not be subject to the provisions of part III of title 5, United States Code.

42 USC 3056b.

5 USC 210L.

“(b) No contract shall be entered into under this title with a contractor who is, or whose employees are, under State law, exempted from operation of the State workmen's compensation law, generally applicable to employees, unless the contractor shall undertake to provide either through insurance by a recognized carrier, or by self-insurance, as authorized by State law, that the persons employed under the contract, shall enjoy workmen's compensation coverage equal to that provided by law for covered employment.

“INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

“SEC. 905. (a) The Secretary shall consult with, and obtain the written views of, the Commissioner of the Administration on Aging prior to the establishment of rules or the establishment of general policy in the administration of this title.

42 USC 3056c.

“(b) The Secretary shall consult and cooperate with the Director of the Community Services Administration, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the heads of other Federal agencies carrying out related programs, in order to achieve optimal coordination with such other programs. In carrying out the provisions of this section, the Secretary shall promote programs or projects of a similar nature. Each Federal agency shall cooperate with the Secretary in disseminating information relating to the availability of assistance under this title and in promoting the identification and interests of individuals eligible for employment in projects assisted under this title.

“EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF ASSISTANCE

“SEC. 906. (a) (1) From sums appropriated under this title for each fiscal year, the Secretary shall first reserve such sums as may be necessary for national grants or contracts with public agencies and public or private nonprofit organizations to maintain the level of activities carried on under such grants or contracts at least at the level of such activities supported under this title and under any other provision of Federal law relating to community service employment programs for older Americans in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975. Preference in awarding such grants or contracts shall be given to national organizations of proven ability in providing employment services to older persons under this program and similar programs. The Secretary, in awarding grants and contracts under this section, shall, to the extent feasible, assure an equitable distribution of activities under such grants and contracts, in the aggregate, among the States, taking into account the needs of underserved States.

42 USC 3056d.

“(2) The Secretary shall allot for projects within each State the remainder of the sums appropriated for any fiscal year under section 908 so that each State will receive an amount which bears the same ratio to such remainder as the product of the number of persons aged fifty-five or over in the State and the allotment percentage of such State

bears to the sum of the corresponding product for all States, except that (A) no State shall be allotted less than one-half of 1 per centum of the remainder of the sums appropriated for the fiscal year for which the determination is made, or \$100,000, whichever is greater, and (B) Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands shall each be allotted an amount which is not less than one-fourth of 1 per centum of the remainder of the sums appropriated for the fiscal year for which the determination is made, or \$50,000, whichever is greater. For the purpose of the exception contained in this paragraph the term 'State' does not include Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

"State."

"(3) For the purpose of this subsection—

"(A) the allotment percentage of each State shall be 100 per centum less that percentage which bears the same ratio to 50 per centum as the per capita income of such State bears to the per capita income of the United States, except that (i) the allotment percentage shall in no case be more than 75 per centum or less than 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per centum, and (ii) the allotment percentage for the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands shall be 75 per centum;

"(B) the number of persons aged fifty-five or over in any State and in all States, and the per capita income in any State and in all States, shall be determined by the Secretary on the basis of the most satisfactory data available to him; and

"(C) for the purpose of determining the allotment percentage, the term 'United States' means the fifty States and the District of Columbia.

"(b) The amount allotted for projects within any State under subsection (a) for any fiscal year which the Secretary determines will not be required for such year shall be reallocated, from time to time and on such dates during such year as the Secretary may fix, to projects within other States in proportion to the original allotments to projects within such States under subsection (a) for such year, but with such proportionate amount for any of such other States being reduced to the extent it exceeds the sum the Secretary estimates that projects within such State need and will be able to use for such year; and the total of such reductions shall be similarly reallocated among the States whose proportionate amounts were not so reduced. Any amount reallocated to a State under this subsection during a year shall be deemed part of its allotment under subsection (a) for such year.

"(c) The amount apportioned for projects within each State under subsection (a) shall be apportioned among areas within each such State in an equitable manner, taking into consideration (1) the proportion which eligible individuals in each such area bears to the total number of such individuals, respectively, in that State, and (2) the relative distribution of such individuals residing in rural and urban areas within the State.

"DEFINITIONS

"Sec. 907. As used in this title—

"(1) the term 'State' means any of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands;

42 USC 3056e.

"(2) the term 'eligible individual' means an individual who is fifty-five years old or over, who has a low income, and who has or would have difficulty in securing employment, except that, pursuant to regulations prescribed by the Secretary, any such individual who is sixty years old or over shall have priority for the work opportunities provided for under this title;

"(3) the term 'community service' means social, health, welfare, and educational services, legal and other counseling services and assistance, including tax counseling and assistance and financial counseling, and library, recreational, and other similar services; conservation, maintenance, or restoration of natural resources; community betterment or beautification; antipollution and environmental quality efforts; economic development; and such other services essential and necessary to the community as the Secretary, by regulation, may prescribe; and

"(4) the term 'program' means the older American community service employment program established under this title.

"AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

"Sec. 908. There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$100,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, \$37,500,000 for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, \$150,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1977, and \$200,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1978."

42 USC 3056f.

(b) Title IX of the Older Americans Comprehensive Services Amendments of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 3061 et seq.) is hereby repealed.

Repeal.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, sums appropriated to carry out title IX of the Older Americans Comprehensive Services Amendments of 1973 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, may be used for older American community service employment projects conducted as part of the Operation Mainstream program under title III of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973.

42 USC 3061-3067.
29 USC 871 note.

29 USC 871.

TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS

SEC. 114. (a) Section 102(1) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3002(1)) is amended by striking out the semicolon at the end thereof and inserting in lieu thereof a period.

(b) The heading for section 202 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3012) is amended by striking out "OFFICE" and inserting in lieu thereof "ADMINISTRATION".

(c) Section 202(a)(8) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3022(a)(8)) is amended by striking out "and" at the end thereof.

42 USC 3012.

(d) Section 303(b)(1) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3023(b)(1)) is amended by striking out "authorized to be".

(e) The last sentence of section 305(e) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3025(e)) is amended by striking out "Commissioners'" and inserting in lieu thereof "Commissioner's".

(f) Section 432(b) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3037a(b)) is amended by striking out "part" and inserting in lieu thereof "title".

(g) The last sentence of section 507(b) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3041f(b)) is amended by striking out "or" the second place it appears therein and inserting in lieu thereof "of".

(h) The heading for section 703 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045b) is amended by striking out "ALLOTMENT" and inserting in lieu thereof "ALLOTMENT".

(i) The last sentence of section 703(c) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045b(c)) is amended by striking out "in kind" and inserting in lieu thereof "in-kind".

(j) The last sentence of section 703(d) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045b(d)) is amended by striking out "in kind" and inserting in lieu thereof "in-kind".

(k) Section 705(a)(2) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045d(a)(2)) is amended by striking out "sets" and inserting in lieu thereof "set".

(l) Section 705(a)(2)(B) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045d(a)(2)(B)) is amended by striking out "cost, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1973," and all that follows through "1973, funds" and inserting in lieu thereof "cost. Funds".

(m) Section 705(a)(5) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045d(a)(5)) is amended by striking out "areas" and inserting in lieu thereof "area".

(n) The last sentence of section 705(c) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045d(c)) is amended by inserting a comma immediately after "failure" the first place it appears therein, and such sentence is further amended by striking out "part" and inserting in lieu thereof "title".

(o) Section 706(a)(5) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045e(a)(5)) is amended by inserting a comma immediately after "requirements" the second place it appears therein.

(p) Section 706(a)(8) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 3045e(a)(8)) is amended by inserting a comma immediately after "program" the second place it appears therein.

TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER LAWS

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965

SEC. 201. Section 110(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1008a(b)) is amended by striking out "July 1, 1977" and inserting in lieu thereof "October 1, 1978", by striking out "and" immediately after "1973," and inserting in lieu thereof "for", and by inserting immediately before the period at the end thereof the following: ", and for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976".

ADULT EDUCATION ACT

SEC. 202. Section 310(b) of the Adult Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1208a(b)) is amended by striking out "July 1, 1975" and inserting in lieu thereof "October 1, 1978", by striking out "and" immediately after "1973," and inserting in lieu thereof "for", and by inserting immediately before the period at the end thereof the following: ", and for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976".

OLDER AMERICANS COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES AMENDMENTS OF 1973

SEC. 203. Section 805 of the Older Americans Comprehensive Services Amendments of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 2809 note) is amended—

(1) by striking out "fiscal year" the second place it appears therein and inserting in lieu thereof "five fiscal years and the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976"; and

(2) by striking out "Economic Opportunity Act of 1964" and inserting in lieu thereof "Community Services Act of 1974".

42 USC 2701
note.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ACT OF 1963

SEC. 204. Section 161(d) of the Vocational Education Act of 1963 (20 U.S.C. 1341(d)) is amended by inserting "(1)" immediately before "At least one-third" and by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

"(2) From funds made available under this section, special consideration shall be given to special consumer and homemaking programs for persons aged sixty or older who are in need of services provided by such programs, as determined by the Commissioner. Such programs shall be designed to assist such persons to live independently in their own homes and to alleviate the adverse effects of loneliness and isolation."

DOMESTIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE ACT OF 1973

SEC. 205. (a)(1) Section 502(a) of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5082(a)), hereinafter in this section referred to as the "Act", is amended—

(A) by striking out "and" immediately after "1974,"; and

(B) by inserting immediately after "respectively," the following: "\$6,000,000 for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, and \$22,000,000 for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 1977, and September 30, 1978,".

(2) Section 502(b)(1) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 5082(b)(1)) is amended—

(A) by striking out "and" immediately after "1974," each place it appears therein;

(B) by inserting immediately after "respectively," the first place it appears therein the following: "\$10,750,000 for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, and \$43,000,000 for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 1977, and September 30, 1978,";

(C) by inserting immediately after "respectively," the second place it appears therein the following: "\$8,750,000 for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, and \$35,000,000 for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 1977, and September 30, 1978,"; and

(D) by inserting immediately after "respectively," the third place it appears therein the following: "\$2,000,000 for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1976, and \$8,000,000 for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 1977, and September 30, 1978,".

(b)(1) The first sentence of section 211(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 5011(a)) is amended—

(A) by striking out "volunteers" the first and third places it appears therein and inserting in lieu thereof "individuals"; and

(B) by striking out "serve as volunteers to".

(2) Section 211(b) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 5011(b)) is amended by striking out "volunteers" and inserting in lieu thereof "individuals".

(3) Section 212(a)(1) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 5012(a)(1)) is amended by striking out "volunteers" and inserting in lieu thereof "individuals".

(c)(1) In order to provide maximum coordination between programs carried out under title III and title VII of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3021 et seq.; 42 U.S.C. 3045 et seq.) and national older American volunteer programs carried out under title II of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5001 et seq.), and

42 USC 5001
note.

in order to enhance the effectiveness of the support provided to such national older American volunteer programs by the ACTION Agency, the Director of the ACTION Agency shall designate an aging resource specialist with respect to programs carried out in each State under title II of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973.

42 USC 500L

(2) (A) Each aging resource specialist designated under paragraph (1) shall be qualified to serve in such capacity by appropriate experience and training, and shall be stationed in a State office of the ACTION Agency.

(B) The primary responsibility of each aging resource specialist shall be—

(i) to support programs carried out under title II of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 in any State or other jurisdiction served by the State office involved; and

(ii) to seek to coordinate such programs with programs carried out under title III and title VII of the Older Americans Act of 1965 in any such State or other jurisdiction.

42 USC 3021, 3045, Definitions,

(3) For purposes of this subsection—

(A) the term "ACTION Agency" means the ACTION Agency established by section 401 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 5041);

(B) the term "primary responsibility" means the devotion of more than one-half of regular working hours to the performance of duties described in paragraph (2) (B); and

(C) the term "State" means the several States, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

AMENDMENT TO RESEARCH ON AGING ACT OF 1974

SEC. 206. Section 464 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 289k-5) is amended by striking out "one year" and inserting in lieu thereof "two years".

Age Discrimination Act of 1975,

TITLE III—PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATION BASED ON AGE

SHORT TITLE

42 USC 6101 note,

SEC. 301. The provisions of this title may be cited as the "Age Discrimination Act of 1975".

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

42 USC 6101,

SEC. 302. It is the purpose of this title to prohibit unreasonable discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance, including programs or activities receiving funds under the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act of 1972 (31 U.S.C. 1221 et seq.).

PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATION

42 USC 6102,

SEC. 303. Pursuant to regulations prescribed under section 304, and except as provided by section 304(b) and section 304(c), no person in the United States shall, on the basis of age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

REGULATIONS

SEC. 304. (a) (1) Not later than one year after the transmission of the report required by section 307(b), or two and one-half years after the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever occurs first, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare shall publish in the Federal Register proposed general regulations to carry out the provisions of section 303.

42 USC 6103,

(2) (A) The Secretary shall not publish such proposed general regulations until the expiration of a period comprised of—

(i) the forty-five day period specified in section 307(e); and

(ii) an additional forty-five day period, immediately following the period described in clause (i), during which any committee of the Congress having jurisdiction over the subject matter involved may conduct hearings with respect to the report which the Commission is required to transmit under section 307(d), and with respect to the comments and recommendations submitted by Federal departments and agencies under section 307(e).

(B) The forty-five day period specified in subparagraph (A) (ii) shall include only days during which both Houses of the Congress are in session.

(3) Not later than ninety days after the Secretary publishes proposed regulations under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register final general regulations to carry out the provisions of section 303, after taking into consideration any comments received by the Secretary with respect to the regulations proposed under paragraph (1).

Publication in Federal Register,

(4) Not later than ninety days after the Secretary publishes final general regulations under paragraph (a) (3), the head of each Federal department or agency which extends Federal financial assistance to any program or activity by way of grant, entitlement, loan, or contract other than a contract of insurance or guaranty, shall transmit to the Secretary and publish in the Federal Register proposed regulations to carry out the provisions of section 303 and to provide appropriate investigative, conciliation, and enforcement procedures. Such regulations shall be consistent with the final general regulations issued by the Secretary.

Publication in Federal Register,

(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, no regulations issued pursuant to this section shall be effective before January 1, 1979.

(b) (1) It shall not be a violation of any provision of this title, or of any regulation issued under this title, for any person to take any action otherwise prohibited by the provisions of section 303 if, in the program or activity involved—

(A) such action reasonably takes into account age as a factor necessary to the normal operation or the achievement of any statutory objective of such program or activity; or

(B) the differentiation made by such action is based upon reasonable factors other than age.

(2) The provisions of this title shall not apply to any program or activity established under authority of any law which (A) provides any benefits or assistance to persons based upon the age of such persons; or (B) establishes criteria for participation in age-related terms or describes intended beneficiaries or target groups in such terms.

(c) (1) Except with respect to any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance for public service employment under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 801, et seq.), as amended, nothing in this title shall be construed to

authorize action under this title by any Federal department or agency with respect to any employment practice of any employer, employment agency, or labor organization, or with respect to any labor-management joint apprenticeship training program.

(2) Nothing in this title shall be construed to amend or modify the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (29 U.S.C. 621-634), as amended, or to affect the rights or responsibilities of any person or party pursuant to such Act.

ENFORCEMENT

42 USC 6104.

SEC. 305. (a) The head of any Federal department or agency who prescribes regulations under section 304 may seek to achieve compliance with any such regulation—

(1) by terminating, or refusing to grant or to continue, assistance under the program or activity involved to any recipient with respect to whom there has been an express finding on the record, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing, of a failure to comply with any such regulation; or

(2) by any other means authorized by law.

(b) Any termination of, or refusal to grant or to continue, assistance under subsection (a) (1) shall be limited to the particular political entity or other recipient with respect to which a finding has been made under subsection (a) (1). Any such termination or refusal shall be limited in its effect to the particular program or activity, or part of such program or activity, with respect to which such finding has been made. No such termination or refusal shall be based in whole or in part on any finding with respect to any program or activity which does not receive Federal financial assistance.

(c) No action may be taken under subsection (a) until the head of the Federal department or agency involved has advised the appropriate person of the failure to comply with the regulation involved and has determined that compliance cannot be secured by voluntary means.

Report to congressional committees.

(d) In the case of any action taken under subsection (a), the head of the Federal department or agency involved shall transmit a written report of the circumstances and grounds of such action to the committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate having legislative jurisdiction over the program or activity involved. No such action shall take effect until thirty days after the transmission of any such report.

(e) The provisions of this section shall be the exclusive remedy for the enforcement of the provisions of this title.

JUDICIAL REVIEW

42 USC 6105.

SEC. 306. (a) Any action by any Federal department or agency under section 305 shall be subject to such judicial review as may otherwise be provided by law for similar action taken by any such department or agency on other grounds.

(b) In the case of any action by any Federal department or agency under section 305 which is not otherwise subject to judicial review, any person aggrieved (including any State or political subdivision thereof and any agency of either) may obtain judicial review of such action in accordance with the provisions of chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code. For purposes of this subsection, any such action shall not be considered committed to unreviewable agency discretion within the meaning of section 701(a) (2) of such title.

5 USC 701 et seq.

STUDY OF DISCRIMINATION BASED ON AGE

SEC. 307. (a) The Commission on Civil Rights shall (1) undertake a study of unreasonable discrimination based on age in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance; and (2) identify with particularity any such federally assisted program or activity in which there is found evidence of persons who are otherwise qualified being, on the basis of age, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under such program or activity.

42 USC 6106.

(b) As part of the study required by this section, the Commission shall conduct public hearings to elicit the views of interested parties, including Federal departments and agencies, on issues relating to age discrimination in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance, and particularly with respect to the reasonableness of distinguishing, on the basis of age, among potential participants in, or beneficiaries of, specific federally assisted programs.

Hearings.

(c) The Commission is authorized to obtain, through grant or contract, analyses, research and studies by independent experts of issues relating to age discrimination and to publish the results thereof. For purposes of the study required by this section, the Commission may accept and utilize the services of voluntary or uncompensated personnel, without regard to the provisions of section 105(b) of the Civil Rights Act of 1957 (42 U.S.C. 1975d(b)).

(d) Not later than eighteen months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall transmit a report of its findings and its recommendations for statutory changes (if any) and administrative action, including suggested general regulations, to the Congress and to the President and shall provide a copy of its report to the head of each Federal department and agency with respect to which the Commission makes findings or recommendations.

Report to President and Congress.

(e) Not later than forty-five working days after receiving a copy of the report required by subsection (d), each Federal department or agency with respect to which the Commission makes findings or recommendations shall submit its comments and recommendations regarding such report to the President and to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare of the Senate and the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives.

Reports to President and congressional committees.

(f) The head of each Federal department or agency shall cooperate in all respects with the Commission with respect to the study required by subsection (a), and shall provide to the Commission such data, reports, and documents in connection with the subject matter of such study as the Commission may request.

(g) There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

Appropriation authorization.

DEFINITIONS

SEC. 308. For purposes of this title—

42 USC 6107.

(1) the term "Commission" means the Commission on Civil Rights;

(2) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare; and

(3) the term "Federal department or agency" means any agency as defined in section 551 of title 5, United States Code, and includes the United States Postal Service and the Postal Rate Commission.

Approved November 28, 1975.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 94-67 (Comm. on Education and Labor) and No. 94-670 (Comm. of Conference).

SENATE REPORT No. 94-255 accompanying S. 1425 (Comm. on Labor and Public Welfare).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):

Apr. 8, considered and passed House.

June 26, considered and passed Senate, amended, in lieu of S. 1425.

Nov. 19, House agreed to conference report.

Nov. 20, Senate agreed to conference report.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 11, No. 48:

Nov. 28, Presidential statement.

89 STAT. 732



Senior Citizens

September 24, 1975

Dear Pauline Bradley:

Thank you for writing to invite the Fords to visit the Mile High Guest Home in Denver in order to know how you have been treated. You were thoughtful to share your saddening circumstances with the First Family.

Although the demands of the Fords' official schedules regrettably prevent them the pleasure of meetings with the many people who so kindly ask, you might like to contact the Colorado Congress of Senior Organizations which has volunteers to help senior citizens throughout the state with Social Security and employment problems and with health assistance. The address is 910 16th Street, Denver 80202, and the telephone is 892-5672.

With warm wishes,

Sincerely,

Marba S. Perrott
Director of Correspondence for Mrs. Ford

Pauline Bradley
965 Penn Street
Denver, Colorado 80203

AH



Colorado Cong^{ress} of Senior Orgs.
910 16th St
Denver 80202

Mrs. Nitia Pachak
Director

303-892-5672

WV
Utah
N, SD
Montana

funded by Comm. Svcs Admin / coal / Council on Aging
advocacy group on elderly programs

3 yrs old
w/ ACTION a coal div of Svcs for Aging
Admin on Aging

senior citizen issues throughout state
SS problems
emp probs }
health assist }

Gov. Richard Lamb
US House select Comm. on Aging

Jack Brown
Community Services Administration
Denver
303-837-4767

John Hutchison 254-5400
DC Office (
or Mr. Czapiewski ("Chappy")



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 1, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH, 1975

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

There is increasing awareness throughout America of the growing national resource represented by our older citizens. Their collective knowledge, experience, and energy can contribute significantly to raising the quality of life for all Americans.

As we approach our national Bicentennial, it is important to take special notice of older Americans. They have made and are making significant contributions to our Nation. It is fitting that we not lose sight of the continuing contributions this generation can make nor of our commitment as a society to meet their needs.

The first White House Conference on Aging in 1961 produced a Senior Citizens Charter of Rights and Obligations. The second White House Conference on Aging, held in 1971, broadened that recognition and deepened our commitment to providing opportunities to our older citizens for maintenance of income and health and for self-realization and continuing usefulness. It is appropriate to update the Charter in the light of growing knowledge and recognition of the needs and abilities of our older citizens. People of all ages should join in the development of a Declaration of Rights and Obligations of Older Persons so that it can be proclaimed as part of our Bicentennial celebration.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the month of May 1975 as Older Americans Month. I urge everyone to participate in the efforts to achieve the goal of proclaiming a new Declaration of Rights and Obligations for Older Persons, which can become a rallying point for our Nation during the Bicentennial year of 1976 and a guide to action during the years ahead.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of May in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-ninth.

GERALD R. FORD

#



*Senior Citizen
Medicare*

August 12, 1975

Dear Ann Hamman:

Thank you for writing to Mrs. Ford to express disappointment and inquire the reason that Pap smear tests are not eligible deductions under Medicare. You were thoughtful to share your concern with the First Lady.

In checking with the Social Security Administration, we found that a routine medical examination does not qualify as a reimbursable expense unless there is a reason to believe that it is related to a disease. Tests not prompted by suspicious symptoms would fall into this category.

We can appreciate your desire to practice preventive medicine and send very best wishes for your good health and happiness.

With Mrs. Ford's gratitude for your kind regard,

Sincerely,

Marba S. Perrott
Director of Correspondence
For Mrs. Ford

Ann Hamman
Twin Rock Road
Florissant, Colorado 80816

AH



Senior City

August 5, 1975

Dear Mr. Sable:

Your friend, James W. McCarthy, has very kindly shared your drawing of the President and Mrs. Ford as well as a photograph of you watering your garden. The Fords were honored by your selection of them as your subject and were delighted to learn of your enjoyment of life through gardening and drawing. They couldn't help wondering how your plants have grown since the photograph was taken!

Your support means a great deal to the Fords, who join in sending gratitude and warm wishes for health and happiness to you.

We hope you will like having the enclosed photograph of the First Family who are from left to right: Jack, Steve, Mrs. Ford, the President, Susan, Gayle (Mike's wife), Mike.

Sincerely,

Marba S. Perrott
Director of Correspondence for Mrs. Ford

Mr. Fred Sable
Arroyo Vista Convalescent Center
3022 45th Street
San Diego, California 92105

AH

ENCLOSE FF LITHO, B & W GF PHOTO



Senior citizen

July 15, 1975

Dear Mrs. Shaffer:

Thank you very much for writing of your lessons on how to treat the blind, your garden plans, and your creative handwork. You were thoughtful to let Mrs. Ford know of your activities.

As much as the First Lady hopes that you will find enjoyable and rewarding projects, she is regrettably unable to take advantage of your talents. However, you have her warm wishes.

With appreciation,

Sincerely,

Marba S. Perrott
Director of Correspondence
For Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Mary Caroline Shaffer
Box 319
Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania

AH



*federal employee
announcements*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCTOBER 1, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am signing H.R. 14238, Appropriations for the Legislative Branch for Fiscal Year 1977, with reluctance.

Last year, the Congress enacted Public Law 94-82 which, after more than six years, allowed annual pay adjustments for all Federal employees. Before that time pay raises for officials at the top levels of the Federal Government had been frozen. As annual comparability increases came due each October, more and more Federal employees bumped up against the fixed ceiling, preventing them from receiving the annual comparability increase. Soon, many employees in the upper Civil Service grades were receiving exactly the same salary as policy-making officials.

Under these conditions, it became increasingly difficult to recruit top-flight people into the Federal Government and it became even more difficult to retain those who were already there. With salaries significantly higher in the private sector, many dedicated individuals are deterred from entering or remaining in the public service. Chief Justice Burger has spoken often -- forthrightly and eloquently -- on the identical problems which plague the Federal Judiciary.

While last year's law did not solve these problems by any means, it did give some small relief to Federal officials who had not had a pay raise since 1968, despite large increases in the cost of living.

In the bill I am signing today, Congress has not only withdrawn the small step they took last year to help alleviate the problems of Federal pay, but they have created additional chaos.

If the Congress had frozen only the pay of its members in this bill, I would sign without hesitation.

Instead, in this election year, the Congress chose not only to stop its own pay raises but those of the Judiciary and top-level Executive Branch employees as well.

Further, the Congress has created havoc in the pay levels throughout the Federal Government. The Congress wrote language in this bill which enables employees in Civil Service grades 16, 17, and 18, and some at grade 15, to be paid higher salaries than the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the Administrator of the Farmers Home Administration, the Director of the National Park Service, and the Archivist of the United States. Many other officials will receive lower salaries than their subordinates.

The Congress has made a bad situation worse.

I seriously considered returning this bill to the Congress without my approval.

more

(OVER)



Handwritten notes at the top of the page.

OCTOBER 1, 1976

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Office of the White House Press Secretary

However, I am signing this bill because the Congress will have an opportunity to remedy the situation early next year when I present my recommendations after reviewing the proposals of the Quadrennial Commission on Executive, Legislative, and Judiciary Salaries.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am also signing this bill because the Congress did take action on an Administration initiative of some importance -- the elimination of the so-called 1% kicker from increases provided Federal annuitants. The 1% kicker was originally intended to compensate for the delay in providing cost-of-living adjustments. However, as a result of compounding, there has been overcompensation. Since the 1% add-on was adopted, the cost of living has increased 58% while the 1% kicker adjustments have totalled 71%. Although the new cost-of-living adjustment system which this legislation establishes does not conform entirely to my recommendations, it nevertheless should maintain an appropriate balance between protecting Federal annuitants from inflation, while preserving the fiscal soundness of Federal retirement programs.

In signing this bill I express not only my chagrin but also my deep regret that so many dedicated men and women of the Judiciary and the Executive Branch will have their pay frozen by the actions of this Congress. We must all hope and expect that the next Congress will act more responsibly.

sector, many dedicated individuals are deterred from entering of remaining in the public service. Chief Justice Burger has spoken often -- truthfully and eloquently -- on the identical problems which plague the Federal Judiciary.

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If the Congress had frozen only the pay of its members in this bill, I would sign without hesitation.

Instead, in this election year, the Congress chose not only to stop its own pay raises but those of the Judiciary and top-level Executive Branch employees as well.

Further, the Congress has created havoc in the pay levels throughout the Federal Government. The Congress wrote language in this bill which enables employees in Civil Service grades GS-17, GS-18, and some at grade 15, to be paid higher salaries than the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the Administrator of the Farmers Home Administration, the Director of the National Park Service, and the Archivist of the United States. Many other officials will receive lower salaries than their superordinates.

The Congress has made a bad situation worse.

I seriously considered returning this bill to the Congress without my approval.

more

(OVER)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 30, 1976

Dear ,

Thank you for your letter to Mrs. Ford expressing concern for the elderly.

Please know that the President and his advisors have worked diligently to improve the quality of life for our older citizens.

In his 1976 State of the Union Address, the President proposed that Social Security Benefits be expanded by the full cost-of-living increase. This benefit became effective on July 1 of this year. Also, to protect the integrity of the Social Security Trust Fund, a fund that is being rapidly depleted, the President proposed a small increase would become effective January 1, 1977 and would cost workers a maximum of \$1 a week.

The President has also proposed a catastrophic health insurance program to limit the out-of-pocket amount the elderly people must pay for medical and physician's fees each year.

In November 1975 the President signed Amendments to the Older Americans Act which is intended to deliver coordinated, comprehensive services and meals to the elderly at the community level and to enable older persons to live independent lives in their own homes.

Although all of the problems facing older people have not been resolved, the President feels that a very substantial beginning has been made, and he has pledged:

to do everything in my power to help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our Nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of our Nation.



-2-

The President and Mrs. Ford appreciate this opportunity to share their views with you, and they send to you their best wishes and warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Elizabeth M. O'Neill
Director of Correspondence
for Mrs. Ford



APRIL 5, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH, 1976

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Among our Nation's most precious natural resources are the collective wisdom, experience and abilities of our older citizens.

In recent years we have become more aware of the important contributions older Americans have made in the past and in the tremendous potential they hold for the future. We are increasing our efforts to ensure that they have the opportunity for independent living through security of income, maintenance of health and continued useful involvement in the life of our Nation.

America's older citizens have earned the gratitude and respect of our society, as well as our recognition of their worth and dignity. In this spirit, the Federal Council on Aging has prepared the Bicentennial Charter for Older Americans expressing their rights and obligations.

The job market and the area of volunteer services provide some of the best opportunities to draw on the strengths and talents of older Americans. Unfortunately, older, and even middle-aged workers, are too often the victims of myth and prejudice regarding their capabilities. Our society needs the know-how, experience, judgment and eagerness to serve that these citizens bring to the job.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the month of May, 1976, as Older Americans Month.

I urge all State and Area Agencies on Aging and other private and public organizations that are related to the field of aging to observe this month by arranging public forums where the Bicentennial Charter for Older Americans will be discussed and recommendations developed for implementation.

I urge all organizations concerned with employment to observe this month with ceremonies and programs designed to increase employment opportunities for older workers.

I urge all organizations engaged in the delivery of services to persons in need to observe this month by increased emphasis on efforts to recruit, train and place older volunteers.

more



And I urge all Americans to observe this month by focusing on the achievements of older persons and supporting programs to make the last days of life the best days for increasing numbers of our older Americans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of April in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

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W W

Social Security

January 7, 1976

Dear Mrs. Krouch:

Thank you very much for writing to the Fords to share your saddening situation regarding health and finances. We were so sorry to learn of your difficulties, and while the President and First Lady are unable personally to be of help, we were happy to check with the Social Security Administration about possibilities for additional federal assistance for you.

It is a pleasure to let you know that the Roseville staff of the Social Security Administration will soon be contacting you about applying for benefits for which you might be eligible under the new Supplemental Security Income program.

With warm good wishes,

Sincerely,

Marba S. Perrott
Director of Correspondence
For Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Amie Krouch
9060 Auburn Folsom Road, #48
Roseville, California 95678

AH



cc/incoming and outgoing to

Joe Michel
SSA, Room 4 A 6 Annex
Baltimore, Maryland 21235

TO SOCIAL SECURITY: A COPY OF YOUR REPLY IS REQUESTED
FOR MRS. FORD'S FILES

Joe Michel 301-594-7700

Amy I. Crouch

disabled - gets benefits on our record

SS will contact her
to solicit a claim under S.S.I.

Comr of SS advises me that the
Roseville staff will contact you

SSA
Room 4 A 6 Amex
Balt 21235

attn: Joe Michel

f.f.



August 5, 1976

Memo to: Liz O'Neill

From: Ann Haas

Should we have inquiries regarding many aspects of Social Security benefits, Bill Murphy on the Domestic Council, ext. 2761, is very helpful. He mentioned in specific the following areas:

1. retirement benefits
2. survivor's benefits
3. disability benefits
4. black lung benefits
 - the Department of Labor handles newer claims
(contact David Lissey, WH staff)
 - Social Security Administration handles older claims
5. Medicare
 - part A (hospitalization) and part B (medical)
6. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - he can provide info re payments centers (regional & district)

Also, he is sending over language to use when people express concern about the Social Security fund "drying up."



Bf
Senior citizen camp

February 19, 1976

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Thank you so much for your kindness in sharing the picture which you drew from a magazine.

The President and I are honored that you included us in your hobby of drawing and hope that you will like having the enclosed photograph which is sent with our warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Mr. Frank Phillips
Clafin Hill Nursing Home
20 Clafin Street
Milford, Massachusetts 01757

AH

ENCLOSE INFORMAL BF/GF PHOTO



For Immediate Release
Thursday, November 20, 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

The President and Mrs. Ford will host a Thanksgiving dinner tonight at 7:30 PM in the White House family dining room for fourteen senior citizens.

The dinner is being held one week prior to thanksgiving with the hope that it will focus attention on the isolation of millions of senior citizens and encourage people throughout the country to set an American tradition of including older citizens in their thanksgiving plans.

Their guests will arrive at 7:00 PM and join the President and Mrs. Ford in the Red Room prior to dinner being served at 7:30 PM. The menu includes: Fresh Fruit Cup; Roast Stuffed Turkey with Cranberry Sauce; Candied Yams; Acorn Squash; Brussel Sprouts; Homemade Rolls; Tossed Green Salad; and Eggnog Pie.

Mrs. Ford is Honorary Patron of the organization "No Greater Love" who is sponsoring a National Thanksgiving Day Salute to Older Americans.

Guest list attached.

#

Press Pick-up at 7:20 PM for Photo Opportunity



selected by:

Associated Catholic Charities
National Capital Union Presbytery
Washington Area Council of Churches
United Methodist Church
Episcopal Diocese of Washington Ministry to the
Jewish Council on the Aging
National Association of Arab Americans
National Council of Senior Citizens
American Association of Retired Persons
National Retired Teachers Association

Ages of Guests: 64 to 68
64
66
68
71
72 (2)
73 (2)
75
78
79
88

Places of birth: VA (3)
MD (2)
New York City (2)
D.C. (2)
PA
Iowa
Mass.
Shershev, Poland

Number of Guests: 14 (9 women - 5 men) (There are 4 blacks
and 10 whites)

National Statistics: 5.8 million senior citizens who live
alone or without family)
4.5 million are women; 1.3 million are men
3.5 females for every male



FOUND INFORMATION ON GUESTS FOR WHITE HOUSE DINNER FOR OLDER AME

ra Ack (72), now a resident of Washington, D.C., was born in Spotsylvania County in Virginia. At present, she serves as a D.C. Village Volunteer. In addition, she is very active in various church affairs, including the choir in which she sings.

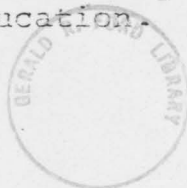
Lillian Barsky (71), originally from New York City, has been active in the Washington, D.C. Status of Women group while living in this city. Lillian has also traveled extensively to all parts of the world with the Conference of Christians and Jews. Recently, she has helped to research and plan a tour book of Washington for senior citizens.

Ardoin Casgrain (78), comes to Washington from Winchester, Massachusetts. One of Ardoin's main concerns is the promotion of the Foster Grandparents program in which he is very active. In addition, he devotes a good deal of his energies to his activities with the American Association of Retired Persons. In his spare time Ardoin writes poetry that reflects his personal thoughts on aging.

Patricia Corbett (79), born in Dubuque, Iowa, is a former pediatric nurse. Patricia's family history can be traced back to America's earliest days. She is a descendant of Josiah Bartlett, one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Charlotte Fillmore (75), has enjoyed various vocations in her years here in the Washington area. At one time, she was employed as the housekeeper for Mrs. McCaffrey, former secretary to Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower. She is currently involved in the Senior Aid Program. In addition, Charlotte runs a Day Care Center for some forty-four children ranging in age from two to four years and in nationality from African to Oriental. She is also, at the present time, a foster parent to a five year old child who has lived with Charlotte since the age of five weeks.

James Morris (73), was born in Tom's Creek, Virginia, but lived for a long time in Knoxville. There, he employed his abilities as a maintenance engineer for the Tennessee Board of Education.



Felix Morrison (64), is a native of Washington, D.C. Felix devotes much of his time writing these days. In addition to his literary pursuits, he is interested in photography. Felix is a rose fancier.

Corma Mowrey (68), comes to us from West Virginia where she was a teacher. From 1950-51 she served as the President of the National Education Association. Corma holds season's tickets to the Washington Redskins games. A devoted sports fan, she particularly enjoys baseball.

Raymond Parisi (72), originally from New York City, has enjoyed various careers. At one time, Raymond was a hair stylist at the famous Plaza Hotel in New York. He has also been a professional dancer. In his time he has worked out choreography with entertainer George Raft's dancing partner.

George Robinson(73), was born in Carolina County in Virginia. George is active in various affairs sponsored by the Baptist church.

Onalee Swain (76), worked for forty-one years at the Department of Defense where she served as assistant to General Medaris. Onalee assisted in the setting up of the Guided Missile Base in Huntsville, Alabama. No stranger to the White House, she has twice before attended teas there during the Truman administration both before and after the White House was refurbished.

Betty Williams (88), who was born in Maryland, is the oldest of the guests for the dinner. She comes from a background of distinguished clerymen. Betty's father was the Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the oldest church in the District. Her husband was also an Episcopal minister.

Frances Winthrop (77), came to the United States from Shershev, Poland. After living in New York, Frances came to Washing where she worked at the Department of Defense for twenty-six years. She is very active in the affa of the Jewish Community Center. In addition, Fra is a Pioneer Woman, a Jewish group which sponsors many fund-raising activities to benefit the peopl of the community.

Wadia Ferris

(Information forthcoming)



For immediate release
Friday, Sept. 25, 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Ford will receive area homemakers registered for an "Identity and Homemaking" Conference this afternoon at 4 p. m. at the White House. She will make brief remarks and be presented with an award naming her an "outstanding homemaker."

The Conference is being held Sept. 26-27 in Washington, D. C. It is being sponsored by the Georgetown University School for Summer and Continuing Education and the TransCentury Foundation, an organization that provides "research, operational programs, technical assistance and consultative services that are needed in fields related to self-reliance of women." About 200 women registered for the conference.

The Conference hopes to provide "status and recognition to homemakers; give women an opportunity to share their concerns and suggestions with other women; explore the changing role of women in the home; highlight the need for research into the problems facing women in the home; review the public and private image of the homemaker; and share the expertise and insight of professionals in assisting homemakers with their problems."

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For immediate release
Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Ford will receive about 180 people attending the National Conference of PTA National Legislative Conference at the White House today at 3:30 p. m. The Conference is meeting in Washington Feb. 18 and 19.

She will make welcoming remarks and receive an Honorary National Life Membership in the Parent Teachers Association. She will receive a certificate and a pin.

Participating in the presentation with Mrs. Ford will be Mrs. Carol Kimmel, President of the National PTA, who will present Mrs. Ford with the Life Membership; Mrs. Grace Baisinger, First Vice President; Mrs. Madelyn Wills, National Secretary; Mrs. Jean Dye, Legislative Coordinator; Mrs. Ann Kahn, chairman of the Legislative Service Committee.

#



November 19, 1976

Dear Miss Collier,

Thank you very much for your recent letter to Mrs. Ford sharing your thoughts as a member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

You may be interested to know that it is customary for the President to send a message to an organization which expresses the desire for such a greeting. While President Ford has sent messages to the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, emphasizing its dedication to our national interest, there was no message request for the national meeting which you mentioned.

You may also be interested in knowing that on October 26, 1974, President Ford signed S. 628, a bill which NARFE supported, "to eliminate the annuity reduction made, in order to provide a surviving spouse with an annuity, during periods when the annuitant is not married."

Because of your expressed interest in the one percent "add on" provided federal annuitants, I am enclosing a press release on the subject.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

Mrs. Elizabeth M. O'Neill
Director of Correspondence
for Mrs. Ford

Miss Bessie M. Collier
3872 Mississippi Street
Apartment 12
San Diego, California 92104
enclosure: PRESS RELEASE

EMO/AH/tkh

OLDER AMERICANS

--Overview--

In a recent special message to Congress, President Ford reaffirmed his commitment to meeting the needs of older Americans, and to draw on their strengths in resolving the problems of America. He asked Congress to:

"...help our nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of their nation."

President Ford noted that the single greatest threat to the quality of life of older Americans is inflation. His first economic priority has been to fight inflation -- and his programs have cut nearly in half the double digit inflation experienced in 1974. But, he said,

"...the retired, living on fixed incomes, have been particularly hard hit, and the progress we have made... has not benefitted them enough."

To meet this problem, the President included in his budget request for fiscal year 1977, a full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits, that will help bolster the purchasing power of 32 million older Americans. Because the President is determined that the Social Security system must remain fiscally sound, he has also requested legislation to increase payroll taxes by three-tenths of one percent for employees and employers so that payments will not exceed revenues.

In a major new program to alleviate the burden of catastrophic illness, President Ford has proposed:

- * Extending Medicare benefits by providing coverage for unlimited days of hospital and skilled nursing facility care for beneficiaries, and
- * Limiting the out-of-pocket expenses of beneficiaries for covered services, to \$500 per year for hospital and skilled nursing services, and \$250 per year for physical and other non-institutional medical services.





Millions of older persons, he said, live in fear of being stricken by an illness that will call for expensive hospital and medical care over a long period of time.

"Most often they do not have the resources to pay the bills... We have been talking about this problem for many years. We have it within our power to act now so that today's older persons will not be forced to live under this kind of a shadow."

These actions are only the most recent of many taken by the Ford Administration to help older Americans. Over the last year and a half -- from the first days of his Administration, President Ford:

- * Signed a \$22.8 billion anti-recession tax-cut bill that included payment of \$50 each to some 34 million individuals receiving Social Security, Railroad Retirement, and Supplemental Security Income benefits -- many older persons were also benefited by extension of unemployment compensation benefits, tax rebates, and 1975 tax reductions. Families caring for elderly persons were benefitted by a liberalization of the tax deduction rules.
- * Signed into law the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, providing new protections and guarantees to 35 million persons covered by private employee benefit plans, including provision for greater equity in tax treatment of private retirement savings, and insuring that participants do not lose benefits because of restrictive eligibility provisions or because the plan did not accumulate sufficient funds to meet its obligations.
- * Signed the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, which, among other things, provides for subsidized housing for low-income renters and authorizes direct, low-interest loans for housing for the elderly.

* Signed into law Title XX of the Social Security Act which provides 2.5 billion dollars to the states for social services.

Under Title XX older persons will receive increased services, planned and implemented by state and local governments -- needs and services determined not in Washington but at the local level, with the participation of the older Americans who will receive the services. And lastly, under President Ford's new Title XX proposal, states would no longer be required to give the federal government money in order to obtain federal monies in return.

President Ford has supported the concept of the Older Americans Act since its inception in 1965. This past November the President strengthened the Act when he signed into law amendments creating new services and goals. Under President Ford's Administration -- \$272 million -- almost seven times the amount available three years earlier-- went to this program. Through the Administration on Aging, created by this Act, a national network on aging composed of state, area and nutrition agencies has been established. As an example of what the Act does, nutrition agencies serve older persons over 300,000 hot meals a day, five days a week at 5,000 locations. This network helps older people to:

- * Know what resources are available
- * Secure services enabling them to live in their own homes.
- * Meet their needs for transportation
- * Provide for the weatherization of their homes.
- * Obtain legal services
- * Continue to be involved by serving in full-time, part-time and volunteer positions serving the community.
- * Cope with housing problems
- * Have a meaningful voice in setting priorities for meeting their needs at the local level.



August 5, 1976

Grey

Memo to: Liz O'Neill

From: Ann Haas

Should we have inquiries regarding many aspects of Social Security benefits, Bill Murphy on the Domestic Council, ext. 2761, is very helpful. He mentioned in specific the following areas:

1. retirement benefits
2. survivor's benefits
3. disability benefits
4. black lung benefits
 - the Department of Labor handles newer claims
(contact David Lissey, WH staff)
 - Social Security Administration handles older claims
5. Medicare
 - part A (hospitalization) and part B (medical)
6. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - he can provide info re payments centers (regional & district)

Also, he is sending over language to use when people express concern about the Social Security fund "drying up."



A. SOCIAL SECURITY

To assist in protecting the financial integrity of the Social Security System, the President has proposed a slight increase in the payroll tax effective in January, 1977.

BACKGROUND

The Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance trust funds are paying out more in benefits than their current payroll tax receipts. This is largely due to increased benefits in the past few years and payroll tax receipts which have lagged because of unemployment and slowed wage growth. Unless action is taken to balance the income and outgo of Social Security, the trust funds will be exhausted in the early 1980's.

To prevent the rapid decline of the Social Security trust funds over the next few years, the choices are either to restrain increases in retirement and disability benefits or to increase revenues.

DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM

The President has included a full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits in his FY 1977 budget. To assure the future financial stability of the Social Security system, the President proposed, effective January 1, 1977, a payroll tax increase of .30 percent each for employees and employers of covered wages.

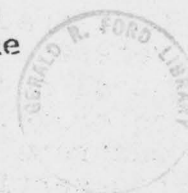
The current Social Security tax rate is 5.85% for each employee and employer of covered wages. Under this proposal, in 1977 the tax rate would be 6.15% on a maximum wage base of \$16,500. This increase will cost workers with the maximum taxable income less than \$1 a week and will help stabilize the trust funds so that current and future recipients can be assured of the benefits that they have earned.

B. AID TO THE UNEMPLOYED

In the State of the Union Address the President spoke of the importance of efforts to aid the unemployed. He referred to two measures previously enacted by the Congress in response to his request and to the Administration's continued commitment to support programs which help the unemployed and which provide training and employment opportunities.

BACKGROUND

A temporary extension of unemployment insurance benefits from a maximum of 39 weeks to a maximum of 52 weeks was enacted in December, 1974. This measure also created a special unemployment assistance program for workers not covered under the regular program to provide them a total of up to 26 weeks of benefits.



Senior Citizens

March 27, 1975

Dear Mrs. Jay:

Mrs. Ford has asked me to thank you for so generously expressing approval and so thoughtfully letting her know of the activities of the Senior Citizens Sunrise Band. The First Lady enjoyed learning of your kindness to, among others, those in Alleghany County Institutions and Nursing Homes. She admires your ingenuity in raising money to carry out your selfless program and is grateful for your special regard.

Although we are unable to recommend any potential Washington beneficiary of your group's talents, it is a pleasure to enclose literature about the Nation's Capital which we hope will be helpful should the Senior Citizens Sunrise Band visit our city.

With appreciation and warm wishes for your continued success,

Sincerely,

Nancy M. Howe
Special Assistant
To Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Marie Jay
Box 107
Ellerslie, Maryland 21529



ENCLOSE BROCHURES & ORDER FORM

OLDER AMERICANS

--Overview--

In a recent special message to Congress, President Ford reaffirmed his commitment to meeting the needs of older Americans, and to draw on their strengths in resolving the problems of America. He asked Congress to:

"...help our nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of their nation."

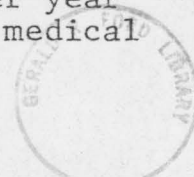
President Ford noted that the single greatest threat to the quality of life of older Americans is inflation. His first economic priority has been to fight inflation -- and his programs have cut nearly in half the double digit inflation experienced in 1974. But, he said,

"...the retired, living on fixed incomes, have been particularly hard hit, and the progress we have made... has not benefitted them enough."

To meet this problem, the President included in his budget request for fiscal year 1977, a full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits, that will help bolster the purchasing power of 32 million older Americans. Because the President is determined that the Social Security system must remain fiscally sound, he has also requested legislation to increase payroll taxes by three-tenths of one percent for employees and employers so that payments will not exceed revenues.

In a major new program to alleviate the burden of catastrophic illness, President Ford has proposed:

- * Extending Medicare benefits by providing coverage for unlimited days of hospital and skilled nursing facility care for beneficiaries, and
- * Limiting the out-of-pocket expenses of beneficiaries for covered services, to \$500 per year for hospital and skilled nursing services, and \$250 per year for physical and other non-institutional medical services.

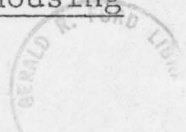


Millions of older persons, he said, live in fear of being stricken by an illness that will call for expensive hospital and medical care over a long period of time.

"Most often they do not have the resources to pay the bills... We have been talking about this problem for many years. We have it within our power to act now so that today's older persons will not be forced to live under this kind of a shadow."

These actions are only the most recent of many taken by the Ford Administration to help older Americans. Over the last year and a half -- from the first days of his Administration, President Ford:

- * Signed a \$22.8 billion anti-recession tax-cut bill that included payment of \$50 each to some 34 million individuals receiving Social Security, Railroad Retirement, and Supplemental Security Income benefits -- many older persons were also benefited by extension of unemployment compensation benefits, tax rebates, and 1975 tax reductions. Families caring for elderly persons were benefitted by a liberalization of the tax deduction rules.
- * Signed into law the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, providing new protections and guarantees to 35 million persons covered by private employee benefit plans, including provision for greater equity in tax treatment of private retirement savings, and insuring that participants do not lose benefits because of restrictive eligibility provisions or because the plan did not accumulate sufficient funds to meet its obligations.
- * Signed the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, which, among other things, provides for subsidized housing for low-income renters and authorizes direct, low-interest loans for housing for the elderly.

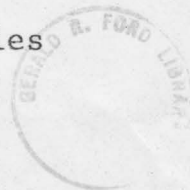


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- * Cope with housing problems
- * Have a meaningful voice in setting priorities for meeting their needs at the local level.



April 26, 1976

Dear Mr. Waters,

Thank you for your letter of February 20 to Mrs. Ford concerning the plight of the elderly in retirement homes and the formation of a committee to look into the situation.

From the context of your letter, we presume that by "retirement homes" you are referring to what are commonly called nursing homes, which usually means extended or long-term care facilities, but can also cover intermediate care and skilled nursing care.

You are certainly correct that there are a number of serious problems relating to nursing homes in the United States today, in terms of quality of care, availability, costs, staffing and other aspects. I can assure you that the President and the Administration are deeply concerned over these and other difficulties facing many older citizens. With a view toward protecting the dignity of elderly institutionalized persons and promoting a high quality of care and life in residential care facilities, the Administration on Aging, under the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, has instituted a Nursing Home Ombudsman Program in nearly all States, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. Enclosed is some literature describing this program and the demonstration projects that preceded it, plus a directory of ombudsmen currently functioning in the various States.

These ombudsmen operate through the designated agencies on aging that have been established in each State, as a part of a nationwide network on aging. This network also includes agencies in 489 communities throughout the country. The agencies act as advocates for the elderly, coordinate activities on their behalf, and provide information on services and programs. On the national, State, and local levels, advisory councils and committees that work in conjunction with the network on aging have been set up to actively promote the interests of older persons. At least half of the members of the State and local advisory councils must be older consumers of services.



Dr. Sheila Waters

April 26, 1976

Page 2

You may wish to get in touch with the Nursing Home Ombudsman for your State: Ms. Dorothy S. Doyle, Maryland Office on Aging, State Office Building, 301 West Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 (telephone: 301-383-5064). I am sure she would be pleased to hear from you and to cooperate with your group in every way possible.

You should also be aware that the Office of Nursing Homes Affairs, Health Resources Administration, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, is responsible for development and coordination of federal policy relating to nursing homes and health of the elderly and for enforcement of standards for nursing homes under the Medicare and Medicaid programs. You can contact that office at 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20852, if you have questions relating to those areas.

Also enclosed is some general information about the Administration on Aging, as well as a copy of the President's message of February 9 transmitting to the Congress "Proposals for Improvement in Programs Serving the Elderly."

Mrs. Ford asked that I express her gratitude for your concern for elderly persons and your willingness to work to alleviate their problems, and she sends her very best wishes for success in your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Elizabeth M. O'Neill
Director of Correspondence
for Mrs. Ford



Dr. Sheila Waters
500 West University Parkway
Apartment 6-J2, The Carlyle
Baltimore, Maryland 21210

EMO/cvp



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

APR 20 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH M. O'NEILL

In response to your communication of March 19 forwarding a February 20 letter from Dr. Sheila Waters to Mrs. Betty Ford, we recommend a response that addresses Dr. Waters' concerns about the conditions in "retirement homes" for the elderly, outlines what is currently being done along these lines, and suggests what Dr. Waters and her group can do to coordinate with these efforts. A draft reply is enclosed.

/s/Michael J Licata
Executive Secretary
to the Department

Enclosure



D R A F T

Dr. Sheila Waters
500 W. University Parkway
Apartment 6-J2, The Carlyle
Baltimore, Maryland 21210

Dear Dr. Waters:

Thank you for your letter of February 20 concerning the plight of the elderly in retirement homes and the formation of a committee to look into the situation.

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Page 3

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You are to be commended for your concern for elderly persons and your willingness to work to alleviate their problems. I hope the above information is helpful to you. I wish your group every success, and if I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Enclosures

PREPARED BY:OS/OHD/AoA
VTDouglas:baf:4/13/76
x-50569



April 12, 1976

Dear Dr. Kessler:

On your eightieth birthday I welcome this opportunity to congratulate you and to commend your lifetime of service to the medical profession in our country and abroad.

You have achieved an admirable reputation for your pioneering efforts in the field of rehabilitation. You can take well deserved pride and satisfaction in your accomplishments and in the lasting respect and admiration of the countless people you have served.

I wholeheartedly join with your many friends who honor you on this happy milestone in wishing you every joy and satisfaction.

Sincerely,

Henry H. Kessler, M.D., Ph.D.
173 South Orange Avenue
South Orange, New Jersey 07079



LETTER SENT FLATE TO: William K. Page, Executive Director
The Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation
Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, N. J.
07052

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

cc: w/copy of incoming to Marge Wicklein w/book.

GRF:BB:emp

March 18, 1976

Dear Wayne:

Betty and I were delighted to learn that you will be celebrating your eightieth birthday on April 3, and we want to be included among your friends and admirers expressing congratulations to you at this special time.

We have wonderful memories of our years together on the Hill, and we know the same spirit that made you so effective in the Congress is keeping you young and vigorous today. We hope we will have a chance to see you again soon. Until then, our warmest wishes for the happiest of birthdays!

Sincerely,

The Honorable Wayne H. Aspinall
150 Aspinall Drive
Palisade, Colorado 81526

GRF:EMP:BE:AVH:ms

cc: Neta Brown

SEND FLAT TO: Ms. Vivian E. Passer
Chairman-WNA Birthday Committee
Apartment 17
De Merschman Gardens
923 North 12th Street
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501



Message

NO GREATER LOVE

November 27, 1975

Dear Friends:

As families and friends around the country gather to observe Thanksgiving, I am deeply pleased to have the opportunity of sending warm good wishes to the members of No Greater Love in your Salute to Older Americans.

In the spirit of expressing gratitude for the many blessings which we enjoy, your program is particularly appropriate as recognition of the role of Older Americans in our national achievement.

May your kindness be both the source of happiness to those fortunate enough to know you and of true appreciation for the thought that it is in giving that we receive.

With fond regards to each of you,

Sincerely,

No Greater Love's
Salute to Older Americans
Washington, D. C.

AH



MESSAGE

SEND TO: Hank Aaron, President
1750 New York Avenue, N. W. 20006
September 16, 1975

*retirement
teaching*

May 29, 1976

Dear Mrs. McClellan,

How pleased I am to participate in the dinner-dance honoring you as you retire from teaching!

You have my fond hope that this special occasion recognizing the inspiration and friendship which you have given to so many will be a memorable one for you, for it represents the gratitude and esteem of those who are fortunate enough to know you.

With warmest wishes that your time with your family and your new undertakings will be the source of great pleasure and satisfaction.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ernestine McClellan
6100 North Stony Lake Road
Jackson, Michigan 49201

AH/mlb

MESSAGE: May 26, 1976
SEND TO:
Mrs. Jerri Hansen
5021 Brookside Drive
Jackson, Michigan 49203

Air Mail

bec: Liz O'Neill



*Margaret
Retirement*

July 12, 1975

Dear Miss Sweeney:

What a pleasure it is to join your many friends in honoring you on the occasion of your retirement from the Social Security Administration!

The respect and affection which your colleagues feel for you are symbolized by this evening and are evidenced by their expression of the inspiration which you have given during 33 years of devoted service to your government.

On behalf of the citizens of the United States, may the President and I convey deep appreciation for the invaluable contribution which you have made in carrying out the work of the Social Security Administration and in helping your fellow-countrymen.

You have our warm regards, our gratitude, and our very best wishes for continued fulfillment and happiness.

Sincerely,

Miss Margaret M. Sweeney
Niagara Falls, New York

AH

MESSAGE

SEND TO: Mr. Max K. Schaffer
District Manager, Social Security Administration
1309 Pine Avenue
Niagara Falls, New York 14301
June 23, 1975



Foster Parents

April 30, 1975

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for providing the opportunity to add my warm greetings to those which the National Foster Parent Association is receiving on its Fifth National Conference.

All who are participating in this Conference can take pride in your individual contribution to the happiness and well-being of those whom you have made your special concern. Our nation is richer for your selfless dedication to these children. Your involvement brings to mind the words of Christ when he said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my bretheren, you have done it unto me."

You each have my very best wishes for a most memorable occasion.

Sincerely,

National Foster Parent Association
Mississippi University for Women
Columbus, Mississippi 39701

SEND TO:
Mr. David T. Evans
President
National Foster Parent Association
Post Office Box 130
Mississippi University for Women
Columbus, Mississippi 39701



Remi aljano

March 12, 1975

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

Mrs. Ford has asked me to thank you for sharing news of the Young-in-Heart program. She very much enjoyed learning of your activities which are such a source of fulfillment and enjoyment.

We are so sorry that the volume of Mrs. Ford's mail prevented a reply in time for the 25th anniversary of your group. The First Lady hopes that special occasion was a most memorable event for all, and she sends every good wish for your continued success.

With appreciation and warm regards,

Sincerely,

Nancy M. Howe
Special Assistant
To Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Germaine G. Johnson
268 Congressional Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20852

AH



March 12, 1975

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With appreciation and warm regards,

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Nancy M. Howe
Special Assistant
To Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Germaine G. Johnson
268 Congressional Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20852

AH



November 1975

Dear Friends:

As you gather for the dedication and open house of the Raybrook Manor, I am delighted to add my warm wishes to those which you are receiving on this special occasion.

May this building be truly a home and as such, the source of friendship and happiness.

With fond regards,

Sincerely,

**The Raybrook Manor
2121 Raybrook, South East
Grand Rapids, Michigan**

AH

**MESSAGE
SEND TO:**

**Bill Worst
1241 Emerald Avenue, N. E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505
November 20, 1975**



Senior Citizens

December 17, 1974

Dear Friends:

It is a special pleasure to send warm best wishes to all who participated in the Sixth Annual Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner at Randolph High School. Your thoughtful project represents time, planning, commitment and involvement as well as the working together of the generations.

Our nation is thankful for the kindness expressed in your generous efforts which bode well for the future. May your success inspire others throughout the year in the joy of giving.

With fond regards to each of you and with my hope especially for the blessings of this holiday season,

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

**Students and Teachers
Randolph High School
Memorial Parkway
Randolph, Massachusetts 02368**

X AH

MESSAGE

**Send to David Wahlgren,
Senior Class Advisor**



November 19, 1976

Dear Miss Collier,

Thank you very much for your recent letter to Mrs. Ford sharing your thoughts as a member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

You may be interested to know that it is customary for the President to send a message to an organization which expresses the desire for such a greeting. While President Ford has sent messages to the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, emphasizing its dedication to our national interest, there was no message request for the national meeting which you mentioned.

You may also be interested in knowing that on October 26, 1974, President Ford signed S. 628, a bill which NARFE supported, "to eliminate the annuity reduction made, in order to provide a surviving spouse with an annuity, during periods when the annuitant is not married."

Because of your expressed interest in the one percent "add on" provided federal annuitants, I am enclosing a press release on the subject.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

Mrs. Elizabeth M. O'Neill
Director of Correspondence
for Mrs. Ford

Miss Bessie M. Collier
3812 Mississippi Street
Apartment 12
San Diego, California 92104
enclosure: PRESS RELEASE

EMO/AH/tkh



FEBRUARY 9, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY
OF THE
OLDER AMERICANS MESSAGE

THE OVAL OFFICE

10:05 A.M. EST

Today I am sending a Message to the Congress that expressed my confidence and support of older Americans, my very deep concern about the problems of the aging and my proposals for dealing with the problems involving them. Society owes a very deep debt of gratitude to all older persons who have worked hard and contributed significantly to our Nation's progress.

Older Americans continue to enrich our lives with their vision, strength and experience. They have earned the right to live securely, comfortably and independently. The proposals that I am sending to the Congress offer significant improvements in the quality of life for all older Americans.

We all have a great stake in fighting inflation, but older Americans living on fixed incomes are especially hard hit. I pledge to continue the fight against inflation, to provide special relief to the elderly.

I am requesting in my budget for fiscal year 1977 that the full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits are paid during the coming year. The value of the Social Security system is beyond challenge. I am concerned, however, about the integrity of the Social Security Trust Fund that enables people to count on this source of retirement income. I am concerned because the system now pays out more in benefits than it receives in tax payments.

To prevent a rapid decline in the Trust Fund over the next few years I had to make a very difficult decision. I am proposing a small payroll tax increase of three-tenths of one percent each for employees as well as employers of covered wages. The alternative would have been to limit **expected increases in retirement and disability payments.** This proposed tax increase will help to stabilize the Trust Fund so that current and future recipients will be fully assured of receiving the benefits they are entitled to.

MORE

(OVER)



I am also very concerned about the effect of catastrophic illnesses. I want to lighten the financial burden which now strikes after prolonged hospitalization -- when the elderly and their families can least afford it. Therefore, I am proposing catastrophic health insurance for the more than 24 million Americans and disabled Americans protected by Medicare.

No one who is covered by Medicare would have to pay more than \$500 a year for covered hospitalization or nursing home care. No one who is covered by Medicare would have to pay more than \$250 for one year's doctor bills. Beneficiaries and their physicians now have little incentive to limit the duration of hospitalization for less serious conditions.

To encourage economic use of covered health services I am also proposing changes in cost sharing arrangements. As under the current system, a beneficiary who is in the hospital will pay \$104 a day for the first day of hospital services. In addition, he or she will pay ten percent of additional charges up to an annual maximum of \$500. For covered services my proposal would increase the annual deductible from \$60 to \$77 and would continue the current 20 percent cost sharing.

To help finance the added protection, I am proposing to limit Medicare reimbursement rates to 7 percent for hospital services and 4 percent for physician services. These proposals are of particular importance in achieving my goal of helping all Americans live in dignity, security and good health.

I hope you will join me in efforts to secure Congressional passage of these important proposals.

We must show our commitment to a cause that is often too long neglected--the dignity and well-being of America's older generations.

I will now sign the Messages to the Congress -- one to the House and one to the Senate urging that they undertake the enactment of this necessary legislation.

Thank you very much.

END (AT 10:20 A.M. EST)

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

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AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY
OF THE
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(AT 10:20 A.M. EST)



EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE
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February 9, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

I ask the Congress to join with me in making improvements in programs serving the elderly.

As President, I intend to do everything in my power to help our nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By so doing, our nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of our nation.

The proposals being forwarded to Congress are directly related to the health and security of older Americans. Their prompt enactment will demonstrate our concern that lifetimes of sacrifice and hard work conclude in hope rather than despair.

The single greatest threat to the quality of life of older Americans is inflation. Our first priority continues to be the fight against inflation. We have been able to reduce by nearly half the double digit inflation experienced in 1974. But the retired, living on fixed incomes, have been particularly hard hit and the progress we have made in reducing inflation has not benefited them enough. We will continue our efforts to reduce federal spending, balance the budget, and reduce taxes. The particular vulnerability of the aged to the burdens of inflation, however, requires that specific improvements be made in two major Federal programs, Social Security and Medicare.

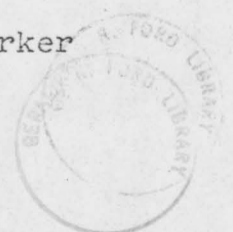
We must begin by insuring that the Social Security system is beyond challenge. Maintaining the integrity of the system is a vital obligation each generation has to those who have worked hard and contributed to it all their lives. I strongly reaffirm my commitment to a stable and financially sound Social Security system. My 1977 budget and legislative program include several elements which I believe are essential to protect the solvency and integrity of the system.

First, to help protect our retired and disabled citizens against the hardships of inflation, my budget request to the Congress includes a full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits, to be effective with checks received in July 1976. This will help maintain the purchasing power of 32 million Americans.

Second, to insure the financial integrity of the Social Security trust funds, I am proposing legislation to increase payroll taxes by three-tenths of one percent each for employees and employers. This increase will cost no worker

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(OVER)



more than \$1 a week, and most will pay less. These additional revenues are needed to stabilize the trust funds so that current income will be certain to either equal or exceed current outgo.

Third, to avoid serious future financing problems I will submit later this year a change in the Social Security laws to correct a serious flaw in the current system. The current formula which determines benefits for workers who retire in the future does not properly reflect wage and price fluctuations. This is an inadvertent error which could lead to unnecessarily inflated benefits.

The change I am proposing will not affect cost of living increases in benefits after retirement, and will in no way alter the benefit levels of current recipients. On the other hand, it will protect future generations against unnecessary costs and excessive tax increases.

I believe that the prompt enactment of all of these proposals is necessary to maintain a sound Social Security system and to preserve its financial integrity.

Income security is not our only concern. We need to focus also on the special health care needs of our elder citizens. Medicare and other Federal health programs have been successful in improving access to quality medical care for the aged. Before the inception of Medicare and Medicaid in 1966, per capita health expenditures for our aged were \$445 per year. Just eight years later, in FY 1974, per capita health expenditures for the elderly had increased to \$1218, an increase of 174 percent. But despite the dramatic increase in medical services made possible by public programs, some problems remain.

There are weaknesses in the Medicare program which must be corrected. Three particular aspects of the current program concern me: 1) its failure to provide our elderly with protection against catastrophic illness costs, 2) the serious effects that health care cost inflation is having on the Medicare program, and 3) lack of incentives to encourage efficient and economical use of hospital and medical services. My proposal addresses each of these problems.

In my State of the Union Message I proposed protection against catastrophic health expenditures for Medicare beneficiaries. This will be accomplished in two ways. First, I propose extending Medicare benefits by providing coverage for unlimited days of hospital and skilled nursing facility care for beneficiaries. Second, I propose to limit the out-of-pocket expenses of beneficiaries, for covered services, to \$500 per year for hospital and skilled nursing services and \$250 per year for physician and other non-institutional medical services.

This will mean that each year over a billion dollars of benefit payments will be targeted for handling the financial burden of prolonged illness. Millions of older persons live in fear of being stricken by an illness that will call for expensive hospital and medical care over a long period of time. Most often they do not have the resources to pay the bills. The members of their families share their fears because they also do not have the resources to pay such

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large bills. We have been talking about this problem for many years. We have it within our power to act now so that today's older persons will not be forced to live under this kind of a shadow. I urge the Congress to act promptly.

Added steps are needed to slow down the inflation of health costs and to help in the financing of this catastrophic protection. Therefore, I am recommending that the Congress limit increases in medicare payment rates in 1977 and 1978 to 7% a day for hospitals and 4% for physician services.

Additional cost-sharing provisions are also needed to encourage economical use of the hospital and medical services included under Medicare. Therefore, I am recommending that patients pay 10% of hospital and nursing home charges after the first day and that the existing deductible for medical services be increased from \$60 to \$77 annually.

The savings from placing a limit on increases in medicare payment rates and some of the revenue from increased cost sharing will be used to finance the catastrophic illness program.

I feel that, on balance, these proposals will provide our elder citizens with protection against catastrophic illness costs, promote efficient utilization of services, and moderate the increases in health care costs.

The legislative proposals which I have described are only part of the over-all effort we are making on behalf of older Americans. Current conditions call for continued and intensified action on a broad front.

We have made progress in recent years. We have responded, for example, to recommendations made at the 1971 White House Conference on Aging. A Supplemental Security Income program was enacted. Social Security benefits have been increased in accord with increases in the cost of living. The Social Security retirement test was liberalized. Many inequities in payments to women have been eliminated. The 35 million workers who have earned rights in private pension plans now have increased protection.

In addition we have continued to strengthen the Older Americans Act. I have supported the concept of the Older Americans Act since its inception in 1965, and last November signed the most recent amendments into law.

A key component of the Older Americans Act is the national network on aging which provides a solid foundation on which action can be based. I am pleased that we have been able to assist in setting up this network of 56 State and 489 Area Agencies on Aging, and 700 local nutrition agencies. These local nutrition agencies for example provide 300,000 hot meals a day five days a week.

The network provides a structure which can be used to attack other important problems. A concern of mine is that the voice of the elderly, as consumers, be heard in the governmental decision-making process. The network on aging

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offers opportunities for this through membership on advisory councils related to State and Area Agencies on Aging, Nutrition Project Agencies and by participation in public hearings on the annual State and Area Plans. Such involvement can and will have a significant impact on determining what services for the aging are to be given the highest priorities at the local level.

The principal goal of this National Network on Aging is to bring into being coordinated comprehensive systems for the provision of service to the elderly at the community level. I join in the call for hard and creative work at all levels -- Federal, State and Area in order to achieve this objective. I am confident that progress can be made.

Toward this end, the Administration on Aging and a number of Federal Departments and agencies have signed agreements which will help to make available to older persons a fair share of the Federal funds available in such areas as housing, transportation, social services, law enforcement, adult education and manpower -- resources which can play a major role in enabling older persons to continue to live in their own homes.

Despite these efforts, however, five percent of our older men and women require the assistance provided by skilled nursing homes and other long term care facilities. To assist these citizens, an ombudsman process, related solely to the persons in these facilities, is being put into operation by the National Network on Aging. We believe that this program will help to resolve individual complaints, facilitate important citizen involvement in the vigorous enforcement of Federal, State and local laws designed to improve health and safety standards, and to improve the quality of care in these facilities.

Today's older persons have made invaluable contributions to the strengthening of our nation. They have provided the nation with a vision and strength that has resulted in unprecedented advancements in all of the areas of our life. Our national moral strength is due in no small part to the significance of their contributions. We must continue and strengthen both our commitment to doing everything we can to respond to the needs of the elderly and our determination to draw on their strengths.

Our entire history has been marked by a tradition of growth and progress. Each succeeding generation can measure its progress in part by its ability to recognize, respect and renew the contributions of earlier generations. I believe that the Social Security and Medicare improvements I am proposing, when combined with the action programs under the Older Americans Act, will insure a measure of progress for the elderly and thus provide real hope for us all.

GERALD R. FORD

THE WHITE HOUSE,

February 9, 1976.

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