

The original documents are located in Box 20, folder “Vice President - House Suggestions, Mi-Z (4)” of the Robert T. Hartmann Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

CHARLES W. SANDMAN, JR.
SECOND DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

August 14, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
of America
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with your request to Members of Congress expressing their views as to who should be the next Vice President of the United States, I submit the following:

1st Choice -- Former Governor Nelson Rockefeller

I know of no man in the United States more versed in government, especially in the Executive Branch of Government, than former Governor Nelson Rockefeller who has served as Governor of New York longer than any man in history. He would be an invaluable aide to you especially in your early days as Chief Executive. Moreover, looking forward to the next election, a Ford/Rockefeller ticket, in my judgment, would win every state in the Northeast with a possible exception of Massachusetts. He would definitely help you win the most populous states in the Northeast, namely; New York, Pennsylvania and definitely New Jersey. I urge you to give this nomination your most serious attention.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
August 14, 1974
Page Two

Other Choices -- All of whom are good men but not nearly half the asset to you as President as Rockefeller would -- include Governor Ronald Reagan, George Bush and others.

With warm personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charlie".

Charles W. Sandman, Jr.
Member of Congress

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

*opened in
Sen. Haig's office
brought to del
4:59 8/14 by Judy*

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D. C.

RONALD A. SARASIN
5TH DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
511 CANNON BUILDING
(202) 225-3822

DISTRICT OFFICE:
FEDERAL BUILDING
135 GRAND STREET
WATERBURY, CONN. 06701
(203) 573-1418

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEE:
EDUCATION AND LABOR

SUBCOMMITTEES:
GENERAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR
SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR
SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION

TASK FORCE ON AGING
TASK FORCE ON ENERGY
AND RESOURCES

August 12, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Ford:

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to contribute my views on the question of the appointment of a successor to the Office of Vice President of the United States. While I have given a great deal of thought to this question, I have concluded that with the great number of able, qualified and widely acceptable candidates already being mentioned, I would choose not to single out any one.

I would rather take the liberty of simply expressing some of my thoughts on the type of candidate I would favor. I feel that you are in a far better position to determine which of the individuals would best serve the new Administration in its future aims.

As you have already so eloquently stated, a major goal must be to bring the nation back together and to restore confidence in our governmental system. I personally believe this can best be accomplished through the nomination of a Vice Presidential candidate who will add to the broad-base of support the incoming administration must have to accomplish this goal.

I also believe we must look to the future, not only for the nation, but for our Party. While I can appreciate the thinking of those urging a bi-partisan approach, I do not believe this is in the best interests of strengthening the two party system at this point in our history, and I believe the two party system is essential to the continuation of our Democracy.

It goes without saying that the nominee must be a man of unquestioned integrity and character who can contribute to the high ethical standard you have brought to the Presidency.

Finally, I do not believe the healing process can best be achieved by the avoidance of controversy to the extent of ruling out highly qualified individuals simply because they may not be totally non-contro-

Page two --

versial. I believe the best interests of the nation and our Party can best be served by your choosing the man you feel can make the greatest contribution to your Administration regardless of the views of any individual or school of thought.

I look forward to supporting your choice for this important post with full confidence you will exhibit the sound judgment you invariably do.

With best personal regards,

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Sarasin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "R".

RONALD A. SARASIN

RAS:ck

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Ronald A. Sarasin
M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Duplicate



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

HERMAN T. SCHNEEBELI
17TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

Determined to be an
Administrative Marking

By SD NARA, Date 6/11/2015

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

August 7, 1974

Dear Jerry:

Your choice of Nelson Rockefeller to serve as your Vice President will result in needed national solidarity and stability so necessary in these trying times. The two of you will assure a strong national resolve to move forward during this crisis.

Additionally, I believe that your early endorsement of a balanced Federal budget by Fiscal Year 1976 as espoused by Arthur Burns and Bill Simon will give strength to our solution of financial problems.

Respectfully and sincerely,

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Vice President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

J . . .
HERMAN T. SCHNEEBELI
17TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

ROOM 1336 LONGWORTH H.O.B.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

408 FIDELITY NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
WILLIAMSPORT, PENNSYLVANIA 17701

1146 FEDERAL BUILDING
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17108

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 12, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President
The White House

My dear Mr. President:

I should like to make the following recommendation as
my choice to serve as Vice President during your Administration.

1. The Honorable Nelson Rockefeller
2. The Honorable George Bush

Sincerely,


Herman T. Schneebeli, M.C.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Neman T Achubeli
M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President
The White House

GARNER E. SHRIVER
4TH DISTRICT, KANSAS

ROOM 2209
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

LESTER ROSEN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

MEMBER:
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
LABOR—HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
FOREIGN OPERATIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

August 13, 1974

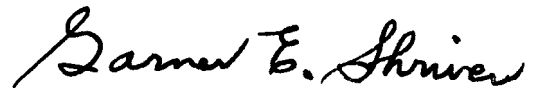
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I appreciate the opportunity and privilege of submitting to you my suggestions for your consideration for the office of Vice President. The following names are suggested without order as to their preference. Your choice and your selection will, of course, be quite satisfactory with me.

Hon. Nelson Rockefeller
Hon. George Bush
Hon. Robert T. Stafford

Sincerely,



GARNER E. SHRIVER
Member of Congress

GES:jf

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Garner E. Shriver

M.C.

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 13, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I urge you to consider nominating for Vice President a responsible southern Democrat who would be willing to join you in restructuring a Party of Republicans and conservative Democrats. The purpose would be to create a new majority. Perhaps it would take two steps: First, a "New Republican Party" and a "Conservative Democratic Party"; then a merger of the two for 1976. Candidates might include Hollings and Bentsen. The principle is more important than the individual.

While I strongly advocate this course, if it is unacceptable now, then I urge you to select a Republican who has the potential for an illustrious future rather than one with an illustrious past. Candidates might include Brock and Bush, but again, the principle is more important than the individual. We must build for the future.

My most fundamental personal political goal is to help achieve a "new majority" in my lifetime. I have little desire to stick around for the next twenty years watching the liberals run our country.

Your bold and decisive action in selecting a Vice President can set the framework for a new majority in 1976, 1980 and beyond.

In this century, a Ford can become a Lincoln.

Most respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. G. Shuster". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "S".

E. G. Shuster
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

E. R. "Bud" Shuster
M.C.

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

✓
JOE SKUBITZ
5TH DISTRICT, KANSAS

COUNTIES

ALLEN	LABETTE
ANDERSON	LINN
BOURBON	LYON
BUTLER	MIAMI
CHASE	MONTGOMERY
CHAUTAUQUA	MORRIS
CHEROKEE	NEOSHO
COFFEY	OSAGE
COWLEY	SEDGWICK
CRAWFORD	SUMNER
ELK	WILSON
GREENWOOD	WOODSON
HARPER	

COMMITTEES

INTERSTATE AND
FOREIGN COMMERCE

INTERIOR AND INSULAR
AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 12, 1974

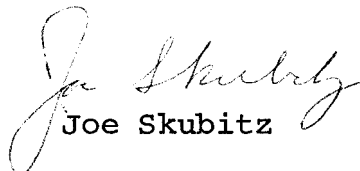
Dear Mr. President:

If you seek a man who will appeal to youth, is an effective speaker, and could handle himself admirably at home and abroad-- John Anderson of Illinois.

If you are looking to the future for a political running mate--Nelson Rockefeller.

I urge you ask Les Arends to serve as your liaison with Capitol Hill. He understands Congress, has the Members' confidence, and can persuade without being offensive.

Sincerely,


Joe Skubitz

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Skubitz

The President of the United States

IN RE: VICE PRESIDENT

HENRY P. SMITH III
36TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON THE
JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

RUSSELL A. ROURKE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
2331 RAYBURN OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202: 225-3231

WILLIAM B. LEWIS
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
4 WEBSTER STREET
NORTH TONAWANDA, NEW YORK
TEL.: 695-1577

For Vice-President:

Nelson Rockefeller

George Bush

Edward Brooke

Barber Conable

Robert Taft

Rogers Morton

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Henry P. Smith III
M.C.

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

J
M. GENE SNYDER
4TH DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

306 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BLDG.
TEL: 202-225-3465

COMMITTEES:
PUBLIC WORKS
MERCHANT MARINE AND
FISHERIES

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

DISTRICT OFFICES:
310 FEDERAL BUILDING
COVINGTON, KY. 41011
606-491-0105

140 CHENOWETH LANE
ST. MATTHEWS, KY. 40201
502-895-6949

August 13, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

It is with appreciation that I respond to the Minority Leader's letter of yesterday. You are to be commended for seeking the comments of Republicans in the Congress regarding your selection of a Vice President.

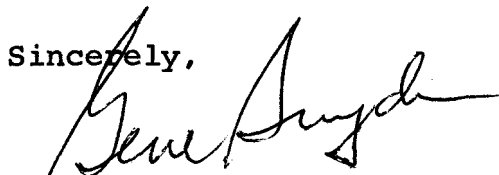
Having served in the Vice Presidency, you know well the qualifications for the job. In addition to the obvious qualifications, the Vice President can do much for our party as a leading spokesman articulating our party principles. It is with this in mind that I suggest:

1. Governor Ronald Reagan
2. Secretary Rogers Morton
3. Chairman George Bush

Rockefeller, Brooke or Richardson would not be acceptable in our area.

Best wishes to you, Mr. President, as you enter upon your new duties.

Sincerely,



M. Gene Snyder

MGS:mj

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Gene Snyder
M.C.

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

To be delivered to H-232 The Capitol

FLOYD SPENCE
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
120 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202, 225-2452

DISTRICT OFFICES:
FEDERAL BUILDING, 901 SUMTER STREET
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201
AREA CODE 803, 765-3871
AND
372 ST. PAUL STREET, NE.
ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA 29115
AREA CODE 803, 536-4641

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

COUNTIES:
ALLENDALE CALHOUN
BAMBERG LEXINGTON
BARNWELL ORANGEBURG
RICHLAND

W. A. "AL" COOK
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
W. L. "SONNY" SANDERS
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

August 13, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

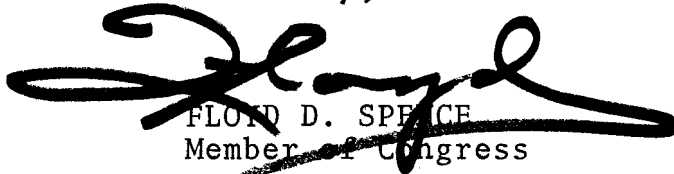
Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to recommend for your consideration for appointment as Vice President the following: Senator Barry Goldwater, the Honorable George Bush, and Governor Ronald Reagan. It is my belief that each would serve with distinction in this high office.

I feel compelled to state that there are other names reportedly under your consideration which give me cause for much concern. While I am sure that they too are individuals of high moral character and strong personal conviction, their political philosophies are generally associated with that which was utterly rejected by the American people when they last had the opportunity to express themselves in concert. I refer, of course, to the Presidential election of 1972.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely,


FLOYD D. SPENCE
Member of Congress

FDS/ch

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Floyd A. Spence
M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

J. WILLIAM STANTON
11TH DISTRICT, OHIO

2448 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
PHONE: AREA CODE 202, 225-5306

COMMITTEE ON
BANKING AND CURRENCY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON
SMALL BUSINESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

DISTRICT OFFICES:
170 NORTH ST. CLAIR STREET
PAINESVILLE, OHIO 44077
PHONE: AREA CODE 216, 352-6167

MANTUA POST OFFICE
10748 NORTH MAIN STREET
MANTUA, OHIO 44255
PHONE: AREA CODE 216, 274-8444

August 13, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Knowing that you realize I will strongly support your choice for Vice President under any circumstances, that, indirectly, you requested this letter, and hoping to avoid having to take up your time in the future, I humbly and respectfully submit my suggestions for the Vice Presidency - and some suggestions about personnel in general.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT - SENATOR MARK O. HATFIELD.

Qualifications:

His 24 years of public experience, including service as Secretary of State and then, Governor of Oregon for eight years, eight years a United States Senator, have marked him as a man of high intelligence, an eloquent and persuasive speaker, a religious man of high moral character, and a team player who has campaigned enthusiastically for Republicans of all philosophies, including Goldwater and Nixon.

Reasons:

I keep thinking that the people most mentioned for Vice President are those who can either be classified as personal friends or national figures who belong to another generation and another America. I believe that this is an ideal opportunity to present to our country a man who is indeed a national figure, but also a "new face," with whom your children and millions of other young Americans can really identify. Any Vice President whom you choose should be extremely

August 13, 1974

loyal. To be a really close friend before being appointed can be a liability more than an asset. I think Mark Hatfield differs from other Vietnam War opponents in that he recognizes that a strong military is a necessity and that we indeed have obligations for peace in Southeast Asia that we must honor.

Bill Scranton also fulfills many of the qualifications that I have stated above.

Respectfully hoping that you might have a quiet moment to reflect on other personnel for other positions, I would like to make the following observations:

Donald Rumsfeld - a superb choice for your chief of staff. Don is a highly organized individual, a person of total trust and one who has the personality and political and governmental experience to be your top assistant.

Alexander Haig. Since you are to coach in the toughest of all leagues - the international one - it must be scary not to have a backup quarterback. Henry Kissinger has made it a one-man team. Someone of the calibre of an Alexander Haig should be elevated to be his top assistant. I think he would be ideal.

Ray Bliss. Richard Nixon's biggest political mistake was not Watergate, but moving as President in almost his first official act to relieve the best national chairman our Party ever had and in moving in a direction that literally gave Ehrlichman and Haldeman control of our Party. Ray Bliss is my constituent. I think you could talk him into coming to Washington for four months with the idea of organizing a mini-Republican Convention consisting of State leaders, Congressional leaders, etc., for the purpose of rejuvenating the Republican Party organization and encompassing Federal, State and local office-holders under one organization. I doubt if Ray would accept anything beyond this.

(in early
December)

Mel Laird, John Byrnes, George Bush. These are three people whom I highly respect and whose outstanding qualifications I know you will utilize to the fullest. George Bush should see us through the fall elections in his present post.

August 13, 1974

William McChesney Martin. When it comes to international and domestic knowledge of our monetary system, he is head and shoulders above anyone I have ever met. He is a person whose consultation and private advice should be sought. I have what I think is an ideal way in which to use him, but this is not the place to state it.

Peggy Stanton - a person who is so versatile and talented, it scares me. On a part-time basis, she would be outstanding as an advisor to the First Lady on matters involving the social secretary's duties and the press. She observed Johnson's White House from within and has the high respect of the Washington press corps and correspondents. She also - on very special occasions when you want to show the country that the Republicans can have a good time too - will organize some great parties in the White House.

William Stanton. He should never bother the President, but just go home and work hard and fully realize that in 1976, he will be the Ranking Minority Member of the Banking and Currency Committee, who will have to make sure that the President's policies on housing, international and domestic finance are enacted into law. This is his goal.

Apologizing for the length of this letter, I remain

Sincerely,


William Stanton

WS:c

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

J. William Stanton

M. C.

FOR PRESIDENT GERALD FORD

FROM CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM STANTON



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

ROBERT H. STEELE
SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

August 13, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

At your request, I am submitting three names for consideration as Vice President. They are Nelson Rockefeller, Elliot Richardson, and George Bush.

My first choice, however, is Governor Rockefeller, as I believe he would make a unique contribution to the Administration in both international affairs and in domestic and economic affairs.

You will remember, Mr. President, that just ten months ago my first choice for Vice President was Jerry Ford. I'd hate to spoil my 100% record.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Steele" in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

ROBERT H. STEELE
Member of Congress

The Honorable Gerald Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Gerald Ford

ALAN STEELMAN
5TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEES:
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE
437 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2231

DALLAS OFFICE
1100 COMMERCE STREET, SUITE 9C60
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202
(214) 749-7277

August 13, 1974

Honorable Gerald Ford
President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I have two recommendations for Vice President.

My first choice is George Bush. He fits every qualification that I think should be considered. He is a man of unquestioned honesty and integrity. He is in the middle ground philosophically of the Republican Party, and would be acceptable to both the more liberal and conservative wings of the party. He has experience in foreign affairs through his service at the United Nations. Having served in the House for two terms, he knows the workings of Congress. As Chairman of the Republican National Committee, he fully understands the national mood of the Republican Party, and would be an effective, articulate spokesman for our party. His relative youth gives him the opportunity for many years of future service to the country. He is a hard worker; he accentuates the positive, rather than the negative; he genuinely likes people, and people genuinely like him. In short, he excels in everything. He would make an excellent Vice President.

Feeling as strongly as I do about George Bush, it's difficult to have a second choice. But, I would commend Senator Howard Baker of Tennessee to you as a man who would likewise bring dignity to the office of Vice President. He is an intelligent, effective Senator. He has a good national image as a result of his role in the Watergate hearings, and, like Bush, he is generally regarded as a middle-of-the-road Republican who would be accepted by all segments of the party.

Thank you, Mr. President, for giving me this opportunity to express my feelings on this vital matter.

Sincerely,



Alan Steelman

AS:gkm

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mr. Stelman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

M.C.

Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States

c/o Honorable John Rhodes



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

WILLIAM A. STEIGER
SIXTH DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

August 12, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

First of all may I say that your brief remarks following your swearing-in ceremony were eloquent. You have performed magnificently.

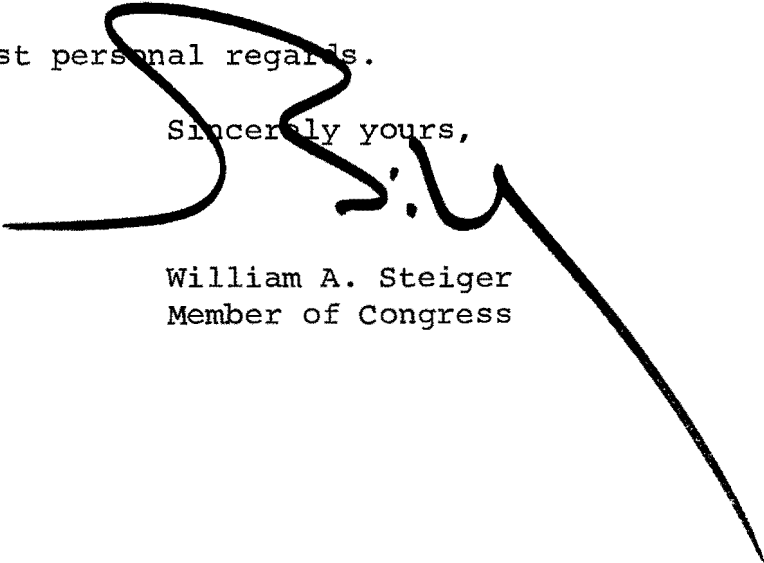
You may be interested to know that as I visited Saturday and Sunday in the 6th district there were favorable comments about you, about what you said and your commitment to openness, candor and leadership.

You have asked through John Rhodes for comments and recommendations on the Vice Presidential selection. From my perspective, I think one would want to have an individual who provides a complement to you, one who comes from a different geographical part of the country, one who could serve as a unifying force among all Republicans, as well as an individual of unquestioned integrity, competence, and intelligence. In addition, I think you should avoid selecting an individual now serving in the Congress although people who have had previous service clearly could be considered.

On the basis of my perspective as to what you should consider my single recommendation would be George Bush. While I recognize that some may consider a Republican National Chairman as a potential handicap, I think it is clear that George Bush has performed so admirably in that position that it is a plus, not a minus. Any Republican, be he Nelson Rockefeller, Melvin Laird, Barry Goldwater, Howard Baker or anyone else, carries the Republican label. George Bush's strength comes from the fact that he has the respect and admiration of all Republicans. In my view he has served as a great unifier, and his geographical background of Maine, Connecticut, and Texas provides a good balance for your midwestern background. I think you will find many Democrats -- Martha Griffiths, Mike Mansfield, Wilbur Mills and even Democratic National Chairman Strauss -- who would view George Bush favorably. His economic and business background combined with his service at the United Nations make him the most balanced, attractive, youthful, articulate and honest person for the Vice Presidency.

Good luck and best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



William A. Steiger
Member of Congress

WAS:ki

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Mr. President -

Thank you for
the opportunity to
make recommendations
for your vice-
President -

I would
urge you to
pick a conservative
of Barry Goldwater

II stature, Reagan, Williams
of Delaware, Buckley etc.

I would accept
our National Chairman
Bush -

I would be
compelled to vote
against - Rockefeller,
Richardson, Percy, Brooke
etc.

my sincere congrat-
ulations on your first
week in office -

III you can count on
my support in your
efforts to keep a
strong America, fight
inflation etc.

my good wishes
to you, your family,
and Godspeed to
the Ford Admin-
istration

Respectfully -
For a Free Society -
Steve Symms

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

The President
