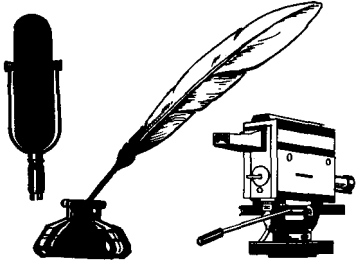


**The original documents are located in Box D6, folder “Ford Press Releases - Congress, 1971-1973” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

**--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
January 14, 1971**

The Republican Leadership of the House of Representatives is holding an introductory conference for new Republican House Members of the 92nd Congress this weekend at the Key Bridge Marriott Motor Hotel.

The 25 Congressmen-elect and their wives (as well as those sworn in after the start of the 91st Congress) will confer informally with key Administration officials and members of the Minority Leadership on organization, procedures, legislative prospects and policy goals facing the new Congress when it convenes January 21.

"We have found it invaluable in the past to get together with our new Members to help them off to a good start and to help us understand their viewpoints and concerns," House Republican Leader Gerald R. Ford said. "As the minority in the next Congress with a responsibility for advancing President Nixon's reform program we must have maximum teamwork and mutual understanding and we are starting early to build it."

Other leaders participating in the panels Friday afternoon and Saturday will be Republican Whip Leslie C. Arends (R-Ill.), Conference Chairman John B. Anderson (R-Ill.), Policy Committee Chairman John J. Rhodes (R-Ariz.), Rep. H. Allen Smith (R-Calif.) Ranking Republican Member of the Rules Committee, and Senator-elect Robert A. Taft, Jr. (R-Ohio), chairman of the House Republican Research Committee in the 91st Congress.

The Members-elect will also hear Executive Director John T. Calkins and key members of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee staff on the importance of getting re-elected in 1972.

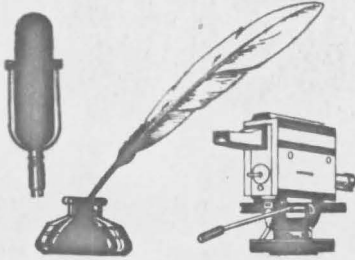
Wives of the House leaders will meet separately on Saturday with the wives of the new Republican Members for a panel discussion of the duties of a Congressional wife and the details of Washington living. Miss Nancy Hanks, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, will be guest speaker at the ladies' luncheon.

Director George P. Shultz of the Office of Management and Budget and Presidential Counsel for Congressional Relations Clark MacGregor will lead off the White House contingent participating in the conference. Briefings on President Nixon's foreign and domestic policies will be given by Dr. Henry Kissinger, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs and Mr. John Ehrlichman, Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs.

All of the working sessions will be limited to participants but a press briefing will be given by Rep. Ford at the close of Saturday afternoon's conference (approximately 5:30 p.m.) in the Federal Room, which will be available as a press room from 3 p.m. on. Media coverage will be welcome at the 6:00 p.m. reception and 7:30 p.m. dinner which will conclude the Saturday program. The dinner speaker will be the new Chairman of the Republican National Committee who will be elected Friday.

(Members of the press who plan to cover the dinner please advise Mr. Paul Theis, Director of Public Relations, Republican Congressional Committee, Lincoln 4-3010, as soon as possible.)

\* \* \* \* \*



CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--Friday Evening, Jan. 22, 1971--

This Statement Embargoed Until Delivery of the State of the Union Message

President Nixon's State of the Union Message is a document which looks forward, not backward.

With this message to the Congress, the President has unveiled a visionary course for the Nation which offers us the driving dream the American people yearn for. Nowhere in the message is there a word of criticism or a dwelling on mistakes past. He has extended the hand of partnership to the Congress.

In setting forth his six great goals for the 92nd Congress and the Nation, the President envisages vast reforms in both the programs and structure of the Federal Government--fundamental, problem-solving reforms, not patchwork.

I hope the 92nd Congress will work with the President to achieve all six of his great goals--welfare reform, full prosperity in peacetime, the restoration of our environment, the best possible health care for all Americans, strengthening of our state and local governments through revenue sharing, and complete reform of the Federal Government through a restructuring of cabinet departments.

I applaud the President's pledge to lick cancer through a sharply increased outlay of research funds, and I strongly favor his proposal to make \$5 billion in shared revenue available to the states and cities. I might add I hope the 92nd will be a "Health Congress."

With his revenue sharing proposal, the President has made it clear he wants to bring government to the people and to bring the people to the government. He <sup>wants</sup> ~~is~~ to make young people a part of participatory democracy and to make democracy a part of their lives.

I believe the American people will endorse the bold course laid out by the President. I hope their representatives in Congress will do likewise.

#####



U. S. HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

# REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

REP. JOHN J. RHODES, (R.-ARIZ.) CHAIRMAN • 1616 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING • TELEPHONE 225-6168

10

92nd Congress  
First Session

July 19, 1971  
Statement Number 5

## HOUSE REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

### ON THE LACK OF HOUSE ACTION ON MAJOR ADMINISTRATION PROPOSALS

During the first six months of this year, President Nixon forwarded to the Congress forty-seven legislative proposals to deal with critical domestic problems. The great bulk of the proposals, with accompanying draft legislation, was received by the House of Representatives prior to the end of March. Prompt action on major legislative programs, which included dealing with national emergency strikes, revenue sharing, executive reorganization and environmental improvement, was urgently requested.

To date, in the House, hearings on twenty-eight of these proposals are yet to begin; in the case of twenty-two, hearings are yet to be scheduled; action has been completed on only five.

Despite recognition by the American people of the need for comprehensive and fundamental reform and for the redirection of national priorities, despite the pleas of President Nixon for meaningful Congressional action, despite the urging of Republican Members, the Democrat majority and its leadership in the Congress seem determined to thwart consideration of major portions of the Administration's legislative programs. In the important sphere of domestic concerns, Democrats in the Congress have produced a dismal record of inactivity. While time marches, the Congress crawls.

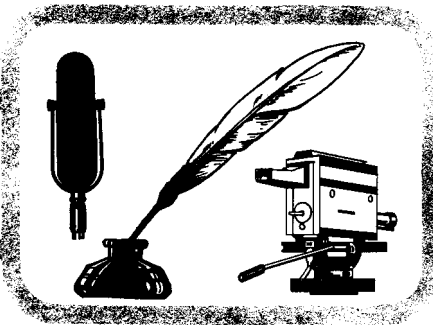
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The House Republican Policy Committee demands that immediate attention of the Congress be given to the forward-looking and progressive domestic legislative proposals of President Richard Nixon.

92nd Congress  
 Status of 47 Domestic  
 Administration Requests\*  
 June 30, 1971

	Agriculture	Banking & Currency	District of Columbia	Education & Labor	Government Operations	Interior and Insular Affairs	Interstate and Foreign Commerce	Judiciary	Merchant Marine and Fisheries	Post Office and Civil Service	Public Works	Ways and Means	Totals
Presidential Messages	1	4	2	5	9	4	10	1	1	1	4	5	47
Draft Legislation Not Received			1		1								2
Draft Legislation Not Introduced			1										1
No Hearings Scheduled		4		2	6	2	4	1		1		2	22
Hearings Scheduled						1	1				4		6
Hearings Underway							1						1
Hearings Completed	1			3	1	1	2		1			1	10
Action Completed					1		2					2	5

\* Reference: Minority Leader's Report, June 30, 1971.



CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

STATEMENT BY REP. GERALD R. FORD  
FOR RELEASE ON ADJOURNMENT OF THE CONGRESS

The record of the 92nd Congress during its first session was spotty and uneven--a few pieces of major legislation enacted but generally a lack-luster performance.

Congress deserves high marks for passing the Revenue Act of 1971, the extension of wage and price controls, the 18-year-old vote amendment, health manpower legislation, campaign spending reform legislation, and a draft extension with provisions pointing toward the establishment of an all-volunteer army.

But the failures of the 92nd Congress are also notable--failure to put general and special Revenue Sharing into effect; failure to reform the obsolete welfare system; failure to enact new measures for dealing with national emergency labor-management disputes in transportation; failure to reorganize Federal cabinet departments; and failure to abolish the Electoral College system and provide for a better method of electing the President.

The first session of the 92nd Congress was marred by presidential politicking in the Senate, and the second session promises to be worse.

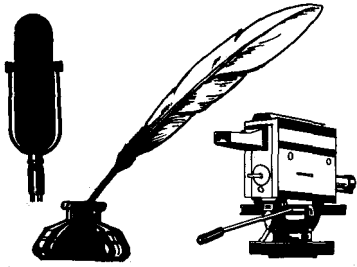
The Senate also acted irresponsibly in rejecting the foreign aid authorization and playing politics with President Nixon's efforts to wind down the Vietnam War.

The Senate mischievously delayed enactment of urgent tax cuts and kept the American economy groping in doubt by attempting a partisan grab for taxpayers' dollars to finance the Democratic Party's 1972 presidential campaign.

The House, while not always embracing the President's proposals, usually dealt responsibly with them. The House, for instance, passed an historic welfare reform bill only to have it held up in the Senate.

Viewed in terms of enacting the President's proposals, the 92nd Congress has a poor record on major items. The Democrats have failed to complete action on more than three-fourths of the 56 major measures President Nixon has tagged as "must" legislation.

The answer is for the voters to reelect President Nixon next year and give him Republican majorities in both the House and the Senate.



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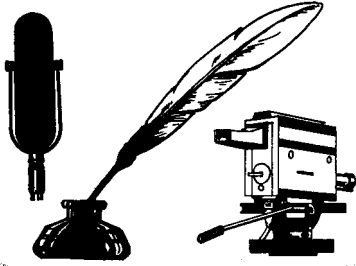
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CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE AT 6 P.M.--  
Tuesday, January 18, 1972

Comments on Senator Kennedy's speech before the Washington Press Club.

It was not to be expected that Mr. Kennedy's perception of the state of the Nation would be thoughtful, thorough, or sensible. It was certainly to be expected that the junior Senator would conceal somewhat his apparent contempt for the sensibilities of the American people. He did not.

I was particularly astonished at his contention that the Nixon Administration does not trust the American people. The record clearly reflects the enormous efforts President Nixon has made to lessen the stranglehold of the Federal Government over the American people.

The constant acquisition of Federal power, the constant assertion that the government knew what was best for the people... far better than they themselves knew, the constant contention that the Federal Government could solve the problems of the people better than they themselves could solve them--this was the arrogance that marked the previous two administrations, that created disillusionment with government and distrust of government. And it is this, as the junior Senator from Massachusetts well knows, that President Nixon is working so hard to reverse.

Welfare reform shows no distrust of people, but faith in their capacity to work their way out of poverty.

Revenue sharing shows no distrust of the people, but a profound confidence in their ability to use their own resources to order their own priorities, and to solve their own problems.

The decentralization of power implicit in the President's programs for government reform is predicated on trust in the American people.

All this is in stark contrast with the arrogant assumptions of the early Sixties, which sought to treat Americans as the subject, rather than the object of government.

I suggest to the junior Senator from Massachusetts that the American people are not so ignorant of recent history as he supposes, not so willing to be patronized as he hopes, and not so sheeplike as the self-generated Kennedy myth requires them to be. Of all issues which the junior Senator from Massachusetts might raise among the American people, the question of trust seems least likely to serve his interests.

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**CONGRESSMAN  
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HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE AT 12:30 P.M.--

Thursday, January 20, 1972

President Nixon's State of the Union Message was perhaps the most challenging such speech ever made to a joint session of the Congress--an appeal that the Congress link arms with him to build a better America despite the political pressures of a Presidential election year.

The President cast tradition aside. Instead of throwing at the Congress a list of new proposals a yard long and impossible of enactment, he laid before them the realistic request that our national lawmakers knuckle down to business in this most political of years and adopt a reasonable number of measures sorely needed to advance the best interests of the American people.

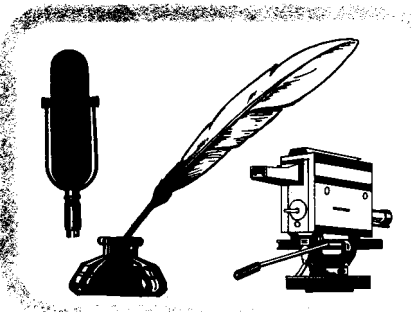
The President has made a statesmanly, apolitical speech. He has not sought to embarrass the opposition party in any way. In a speech eloquent in its simplicity he has only asked that the Democratic-controlled Congress act responsibly this year to meet the needs of the Nation and to move forward on a legislative agenda which is already well established--welfare reform, revenue sharing, health care, environmental improvement, consumer protection, revitalization of rural America, aid for our cities, mass transit assistance, pension protection, equal opportunity for minorities, and better methods of handling national emergency disputes in transportation. In all, the President cited more than 90 Administration proposals which are still pending.

The President also pointed to a new program--a major initiative proposing a Federal partnership in technological research and development. This fulfills a crying need at this time in the Nation's history. I strongly endorse this move. I applaud the various Presidential initiatives to promote full employment in peacetime.

There is little question that the progress America makes in 1972 will depend on a spirit of partnership in the Congress, a willingness to join with the President in actions taken for the good of the people.

This is the thrust of the Nixon State of the Union Message. This is the legislative result for which all reasonable men must hope.

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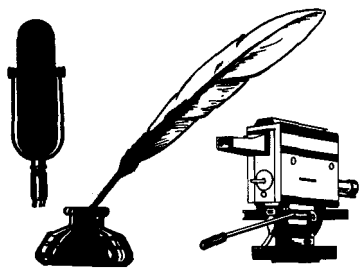
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CONGRESSMAN  
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HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
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--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
January 21, 1972

Comments on the Democratic Party's State of the Union rebuttal.

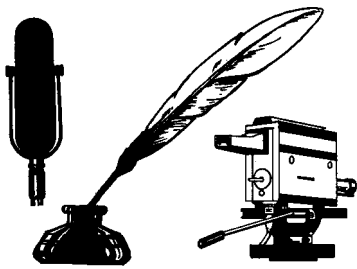
It is inexcusable that the spokesmen for the Democratic Party should stand before the American public and accuse the Nixon administration of failing in its responsibility to bring equal opportunity to all Americans. The record clearly shows that no President has put together a civil rights record to match the one President Nixon has achieved.

In 1969, when President Nixon took office, the schools in the South were only 6 per cent desegregated--after eight years of Democratic rule, years in which we frequently heard the rhetoric of equal opportunity but saw little of the results--years in which there was much bloodshed, but little progress. The Nixon Administration has dropped the rhetoric and produced results. Today, 90 per cent of the schools in the South are desegregated and we are well on our way, at last, to fulfilling the mandate of the Supreme Court's landmark 1954 decision.

The area of government employment is another excellent example of the progress made by the Nixon Administration. The Nixon Administration has achieved unprecedented results in increasing minority representation in high-paying government jobs. The increase in minority employment at the GS 5-8 level has been 15.7 per cent; at the GS 9-11 level 7.3 per cent. At the GS 12-13 level, it has been 21.4 per cent, at the 14 and 15 levels, 33.6 per cent, and at the GS 16-18 levels 55.7 per cent. Much work remains to be done, but this is a far better record than that set by the Kennedy-Johnson Administrations.

There has been progress in other areas, too. The Philadelphia Plan, the newly-strengthened Office of Federal Contract Compliance, the minority enterprise program, expanded assistance to black colleges, the Cabinet Committee on Opportunities for Spanish-Speaking Peoples, and a new, tough fair housing policy are only some of the examples. The Democratic Party may claim to be the equal opportunity party in this country. The record, however, clearly shows that after eight years in office, the Kennedy-Johnson Administrations left much for President Nixon to accomplish--and he is accomplishing it.

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**NEWS  
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--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--

October 3, 1972

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford

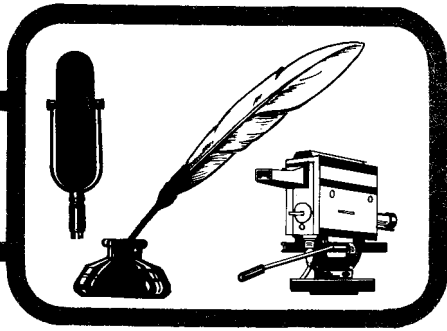
Ralph Nader's charge that the Nixon Administration is "corrupt" is absolutely false, completely unfounded. There is no evidence to substantiate such a charge.

I am amazed that Nader would make a partisan attack against the Administration. It undermines the credibility of his entire investigation of the Congress. It makes him an echo of Sen. McGovern and betrays his own political leanings. Even the words are the same. I would hope that Ralph Nader would retract his allegations, because he has severely damaged his credibility.

I have long felt that Congress could and should upgrade itself, particularly by professionalizing its committee staffs. But the Nader charges that Congress has abdicated its responsibilities and is a tool of the special interests are utterly ridiculous. I know many fine members of Congress--both Democrat and Republican--and they are neither the tools of big business or of big labor.

As for calling a special session of Congress as a reform session, this is completely unnecessary. Whatever reforms might be needed can be carried out in the course of regular business.

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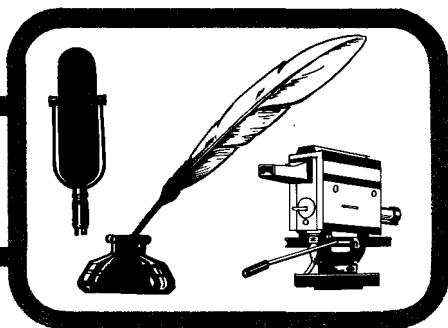
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**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

Tuesday, October 17, 1972

FOR RELEASE ON THE ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS

The 92nd Congress could have been a great Congress. It was not.

The 92nd Congress should have been a reform Congress. It was not.

The reason the 92nd Congress failed to become a reform Congress and to achieve greatness is that it was the most political Congress of modern times.

There is no question that the 92nd Congress has a number of noteworthy achievements to its credit. But at the same time, this Congress passed into history with its record blotched by failure after failure.

President Nixon was a reform president. The Congress, unfortunately, refused to follow his lead in domestic affairs. Roughly half of his major legislative initiatives died on the shelf.

Congress endorsed the President's general revenue sharing plan but refused to act on his various special revenue sharing programs.

Congress acceded to the President's plan for reorganizing the volunteer Federal agencies but refused to enact his sweeping provisions for a general overhaul of the Executive Branch's administrative machinery.

Congress approved the most ambitious, most expensive and most stringent Water Quality Act in history but refused to act on a large number of Presidential environmental proposals such as power plant siting.

The President proposed a comprehensive health insurance plan which promised better health care for all Americans, but the Congress failed to follow through.

The President proposed sound legislation to provide vesting for pensions but the Congress failed to come to grips with this problem.

The President proposed a sweeping reform of this Nation's scandalous welfare system but Congress failed to deal with the welfare mess.

Why is the record of the 92nd Congress so riddled with failures, in contrast with the very real achievements on the other side of the ledger? Because this Congress was determined not to bestow credit on a President from the opposition party. This Democratic-controlled Congress was working for the defeat of President Nixon. A Congress, so dedicated, can only emerge with a partisan political record in the domestic area and therefore has failed the American people.

What President Nixon needs is a Republican Congress--and I am hoping the voters will recognize this on Nov. 7.

###



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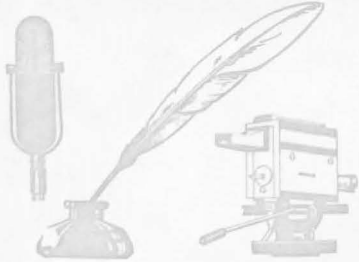
The President proposed sound legislation to provide vesting for pensions but the Congress failed to come to grips with this problem.

The President proposed a sweeping reform of this Nation's scandalous welfare system but Congress failed to deal with the welfare mess.

Why is the record of the 92nd Congress so riddled with failures, in contrast with the very real achievements on the other side of the ledger? Because this Congress was determined not to bestow credit on a President from the opposition party. This Democratic-controlled Congress was working for the defeat of President Nixon. A Congress, so dedicated, can only emerge with a partisan political record in the domestic area and therefore has failed the American people.

What President Nixon needs is a Republican Congress--and I am hoping the voters will recognize this on Nov. 7.

# # #



CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE SUNDAY, OCT. 22, 1972--

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford

The first half of the Nader profile on me achieves good balance but the latter half of the report is unfair and smacks of an attempt at a hatchet job.

The report quotes my 1970 and 1972 Democratic opponent, Mrs. Jean McKee, as saying that I "take people here (in the district) for granted." They quote this as though it were a statement of fact. It's a lot of rubbish. I have never taken the people in my district for granted and I never will.

The report comments that I bring "only \$83 per person in Department of Defense funds to the district as against the U.S. average of \$285." That is manifestly unfair. A low figure for defense dollars brought into a district would be true for any district like Michigan's Fifth which does not have a military installation or a high concentration of defense-oriented industry.

Quoting of Detroit Free Press reporter Saul Friedman's comments on my congressional questionnaire questions about Vietnam is unfair. Friedman is admittedly anti-Administration on Vietnam and this is reflected in his comments on my questionnaire. Also, the Nader researchers omit the fact that I solicited the help of political science professors in my district on the drafting of my questionnaire questions.

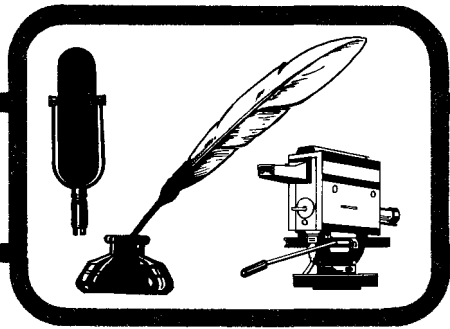
The profile labeled my votes on the SST and the Lockheed loan guarantee as votes that were pro-business. The vote for the SST was a vote to keep the U.S. preeminent in the field of commercial aviation and to save jobs. The Lockheed vote was also a vote to save jobs. The Nader researchers apparently were unaware that the AFL-CIO supported both the Lockheed loan guarantee and continued funding of the SST.

On women's rights, the Nader researchers quote the "Woman Activist" newsletter as saying I had a near-perfect anti-feminist record for 1971 but note that I voted for the Equal Rights Amendment. What they don't say is that in 1970 I persuaded more than a dozen House Republicans to sign a discharge petition which took the Equal Rights Amendment away from the House Judiciary Committee and signed the petition myself. It is ~~unfair~~ *nonsense* for anyone to accuse me of being anti-feminist.

Finally, the Nader researchers quote copiously from lobbyist Robert Winter-Berger concerning his relations with me. This is absolutely ridiculous because Winter-Berger is hardly a credible source and the Nader researchers themselves cast ~~no~~ doubt on his credibility.

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CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--

November 8, 1972

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford

Republicans will build toward a majority in the U. S. House of Representatives, beginning with the gains we made on Nov. 7.

While the net pickup of seats by the GOP was not all I had hoped for, the fact remains that we have narrowed the gap.

My guess is that the House Republican leadership will be able to put together a winning combination for the President on most key votes in the House. We may well have a working majority while not a numerical one.

# # #

0/3/73  
Mr. Speaker, Colleagues of the 93rd Congress:

It is a great honor to stand before you as a sort of surrogate for the Speaker.

Of course, I am a little bit disappointed about losing this contest for the Speakership, but after five defeats you learn to grit your teeth and smile.

First of all, I want to wish you all a Happy New Year -- before somebody gets up and tells us differently.

I also want to express my thanks to those who voted for me over on this side of the aisle. Couldn't we have the same kind of minority solidarity for the next two years?

Finally, I'd like to congratulate our distinguished Speaker and to assure him that I'll support him -- one thousand percent!

As I look out over this historic chamber I see many old friends and familiar faces -- but also many new ones. Fifteen percent of you have just cast your first vote as Members of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress.

It is to that group of welcome new colleagues that I particularly say a few words at this time.

When I first came to Congress 24 years ago, I was under the handicap of having defeated in the Republican primary a very senior member in the Michigan delegation who naturally had many good friends in the House. I happened to sit down beside one of them the very first day, introduced myself and chattered away full of excitement and friendly spirit.

The senior member didn't say much, but finally he turned to me and asked:

"Young man, do you know the definition of a Congressman? A Congressman is the shortest distance between two years."

You will find, I hope, that we are a much friendlier bunch nowadays. For one thing, a bloc of 68 votes -- 15 percent of the House -- could be decisive if all you new Members would stick together. But, of course, you won't. You will vote according to your best judgment and the best interests of the country and of your constituents, which is how it should be.

But may I urge you to counsel with your colleagues in one important respect, and that is the consideration we all owe to the institution of the House itself. The longer you work here the better you will understand what I mean.

I'm sure that if my dear friend Hale Boggs were here he would say the same thing more eloquently. And Nick Begich, though he had served only one term, would have agreed. So I say this in a completely nonpartisan spirit.

This is truly the People's House, as Thomas Jefferson called it. It comes as close to being a continuous sampling of public opinion as any part of our government. Its powers are very great. Its traditions are very strong and deeply rooted in the lessons of history. You have been entrusted by the people who elected you -- by those who voted for you and also by those who voted against you or didn't vote at all -- to represent them in shaping laws and making decisions that profoundly affect their lives and the future of their children. This is a solemn responsibility and a high privilege.

The institutions of government are all under fire today, and among them the House of Representatives. This is not unique to our times; Congress has always been the target of humorists like Mark Twain and Will Rogers and Presidents from George Washington forward have not been above blaming most of the country's troubles on the legislative branch.

But I think it is fair to say that never before have we been under closer scrutiny by the public than today, with all the advances in communications

and instant analysis -- and with the liberalization of our own rules and procedures. So I urge you all, and particularly the new members, to bear in mind that you represent the House itself, in all that you do. I for one pray that we shall represent the House in this 93rd Congress with honor and with pride.

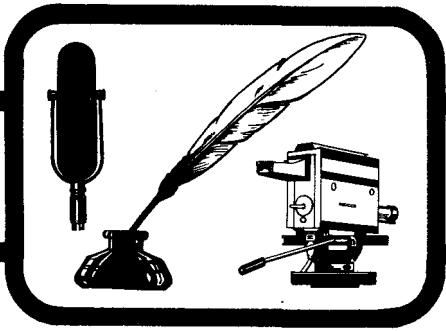
One Member, above all, represents the House as an institution more than the rest of us. The Speaker has been called the second most powerful official of our government and the Speakership is an office of great dignity and power demanding great diligence and ability. Only 49 Americans have occupied this Speaker's chair.

We have just elected one of my oldest and dearest friends to this high responsibility for the second time. He has shown himself to be a Speaker of scrupulous honesty and fairness, a staunch champion of the rights and privileges of all Members and of the great traditions of this body. I am deeply honored to present to my colleagues of the 93rd Congress a fine friend, a dedicated American and a distinguished son of Oklahoma, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Honorable Carl Albert.

# # #



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CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

FORD-ARENDS-ANDERSON-CLEVELAND-GARDNER-NADER PRESS CONFERENCE

There will be a joint press conference at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 5, in the Armed Services Committee Hearing Room, Room 2118, Rayburn House Office Building. Participants will be House Republican Leader Gerald R. Ford, House Minority Whip Leslie Arends, House GOP Conference Chairman John B. Anderson, Rep. James Cleveland, R-N.H., former member of the Joint Committee on Reorganization of Congress, Common Cause Chairman John Gardner, and attorney Ralph Nader.

Subject: Minority staffing of committees.

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**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--

February 2, 1973

Statement by House Republican Leader Gerald R. Ford

The President's decision to send Congress a series of State of the Union messages instead of a one-time shopping list makes sense because the President is, after all, intent not on spending money but on saving it.

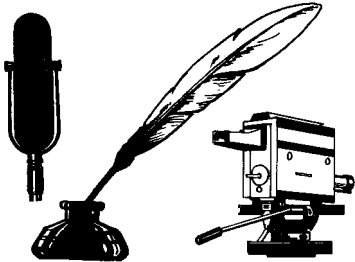
The President's attempt to reduce the Federal Government's role in the daily lives of Americans and to shift some responsibilities for problem-solving back to the states and local units of government should be welcomed by all our citizens. It is time to stop the growth of our gargantuan Federal bureaucracy and to work for local solutions to our problems.

The Federal bureaucracy must be brought under control and reduced. This the President is trying to do, and he has my support.

I agree with the President that the basic State of the Union is sound and that we are on the threshold of a new generation of peace. I join him in pledging every effort to maintain an America that is militarily strong enough to help keep peace in the world.

As for the President's moves to curb excessive Federal spending, I subscribe to that objective. Members of Congress should be ever mindful that there is no such thing as Federal Government money, only taxpayers' money--and that needs saying again and again.

###



CONGRESSMAN  
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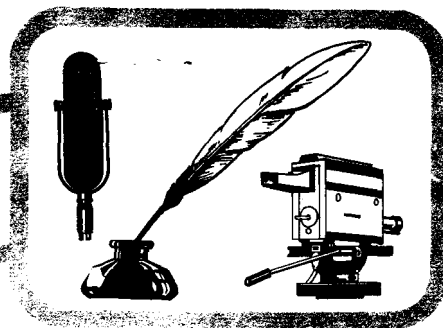
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CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--

February 5, 1973

Statement by House Republican Leader Gerald R. Ford

We have called this joint press conference to light a fire under our Democratic friends in the House on the subject of minority staffing and to announce support for increased minority staffing by Common Cause Chairman John Gardner and Ralph Nader.

Mr. Gardner comes to us with combat experience in a similar battle on the Senate side. Mr. Nader comes fresh into this fray but is no less dedicated to seeing that justice is done. We also have here today Congressman Les Arends, the House minority whip, Congressman John Anderson, the House GOP Conference chairman, and Congressman Jim Cleveland, former member of the Joint Committee for Reorganization of the Congress. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Cleveland are cosponsors of a minority staffing resolution, H. Res. 167, currently being considered.

Identical resolutions have been introduced by Congressmen Barber Conable of New York and William J. Keating of Ohio, H. Res. 23; Harold R. Collier of Illinois, H. Res. 46; and Jack Edwards of Alabama, H. Res. 101.

All of these resolutions would amend the Rules of the House of Representatives by striking out clause 32 (c) of rule XI and inserting in lieu thereof the following new paragraph: "The minority party on any such standing committee is entitled, upon request of a majority of such minority, to up to one-third of the funds provided for the appointment of committee staff pursuant to each such primary or additional expenditure resolution."

Clause 32 (c) of rule XI now reads that the minority "shall receive fair consideration" in the matter of minority staffing.

As anyone can readily recognize, the phrase, "fair consideration," is subject to as many interpretations as there are committee chairmen and committee majorities. This is no guarantee of equity and fairness.

I would like to turn now to my good friend Les Arends to give you the background of the move to increase minority staffing and to refresh your memories on how a one-third minority staffing provision became part of the Reorganization Act of 1970 but was knocked out of the House Rules in January 1971 by the Democrats voting under a binding rule adopted in caucus.

###

Arguments for one-third minority staffing:

Overturning the one-third provision was a breach of faith. An agreement had been made with the Democrats, but was not kept.

Overturning the one-third provision was an exercise of raw political power, an example of a unit-rule, secret, binding party vote which prevents Democratic members from changing their minds because of Floor arguments or because of conscience.

The protection of the rights of the minority is a basic tenet of governmental philosophy in the United States.

Although the minority is to receive "fair consideration" in staffing, this is in fact differently interpreted in each committee and often the spirit of the law is not observed.

If the minority is to serve as a loyal opposition, it needs staffing in order to be effective.

The minority cannot grapple effectively with the complex issues and problems generated by a post-industrial society without adequate staffing.

If the minority is to develop meaningful alternatives and responses to these problems, it needs staff assistance.

Professionalism is not inconsistent with partisanship -- it is important for the minority to have minority staff with points of view different from those of the majority staff. Republicans and Democrats have different viewpoints, and minority members need to be able to work with staff members who share their outlook.

Having a sizable minority staff does not mean that the minority and majority cannot work effectively together. The Education and Labor Committee is an example of cooperation.

Some chairmen won't make staff available to other members -- either majority or minority. The amendment is an opportunity for all members of committees to get adequate staffing. The allotment of staff has been abused on some committees.

The GOP has controlled Congress in only 4 of the last 40 years -- the staffs that have grown over that period are not bipartisan.

The adversary system calls for the best possible presentation by both sides to achieve the goal of justice and good legislation.

Minority views have frequently influenced the outcome of legislation. Adequate staffing is necessary to insure that those views are developed and offer worthwhile alternatives.

Congress needs adequate staffing in order not to lose its initiative in policymaking and bill drafting to the executive.

Many staff members are not quartered in the committee rooms, but are in the Chairman's or other majority members' offices where they are not accessible to minority members.

The executive branch has grown and developed into a vast bureaucracy of professionalism. Its strength has been proportional to the caliber of people it has attracted. The minority in Congress needs staff to balance and respond to this.

From 1969 to 1972, approximately one-third of the Record votes have been divided along partisan lines. Since so many important issues are decided on the basis of partisanship, it is only fair that the minority be assisted by an adequate staff so it can deal realistically with the world in which it exists.



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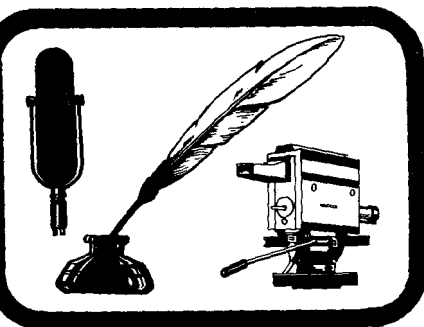
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CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE AT 12 NOON--

Monday, September 10, 1973

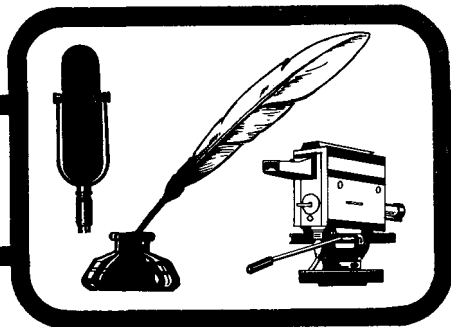
The dominant note in President Nixon's second State of the Union Message is that of conciliation, the extending of a hand of cooperation, a willingness to work with Congress for the good of the Nation in an absence of partisanship.

I, for one, would be willing to stay on the legislative job until New Year's Eve if necessary in order to accomplish the goals which Mr. Nixon has outlined in his new State of the Union Message. It should not be necessary for Congress to remain in session that long if the Congress will act in "the spirit of responsible cooperation" cited by the President in his message.

Of all the challenges outlined by the President, none is more compelling than the need to fight inflation. As the President has so urgently stressed, Congress can help most in this fight by balancing the fiscal 1974 budget. I personally pledge my every effort toward the achievement of that objective.

# # #





**CONGRESSMAN**  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
**HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS**  
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