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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

JUL 30 1976

July 29, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: BILL NICHOLSON
FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF *M.6.*
SUBJECT: Republican Leadership Meeting, August 5

Recommended agenda items for the August 5 Leadership Meeting are
Clean Air and Voter Registration.

In calendar

bcc: ~~Marsh~~
Cheney



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 4, 1976

MEETING WITH REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS

Thursday, August 5, 1976
8:00-9:00 a.m. (1 hour)
The Cabinet Room

From: Max Friedersdorf *M.F.*

I. PURPOSE

To discuss the clean air and postcard voter registration legislation.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background:

1. Clean Air is on both the House and Senate Floor this week and contains unacceptable provisions involving significant deterioration requirements for industry.
2. Postcard voter registration has suddenly become an urgent legislative item for the Democratic Congressional leadership after their Presidential candidate issued a request for its passage. The bill has been scheduled for consideration this week in the House, but may be postponed.

B. Participants: See TAB A

C. Press Plan: Press office to announce as regularly scheduled leadership meeting; White House, and press photos if requested.

III. TALKING POINTS

1. Clean Air - See TAB B
2. Postcard Voter Registration - See TAB C



PARTICIPANTS

The President
The Vice President
The Administrator of FEA

HOUSE

John Rhodes
Bob Michel
John Anderson
Sam Devine
Jack Edwards
Barber Conable
Guy Vander Jagt
Jim Quillen
Jim Broyhill
Tim Lee Carter
Bill Dickinson
Bill Frenzel

STAFF

Bob Hartmann
Jack Marsh
Dick Cheney
Rog Morton
Brent Scowcroft
Max Friedersdorf
Bill Baroody
Phil Buchen
Jim Cannon
Ron Nessen
Bill Seidman
Alan Greenspan
Bill Kendall
Charlie Leppert
Tom Loeffler
Joe Jenckes
Pat Rowland
Bob Wolthuis
Bill Gorog
Russ Rourke
Barry Roth

* will be late

SENATE

Hugh Scott
Bob Griffin *
John Tower
Carl Curtis
Bob Stafford
Ted Stevens
Howard Baker
Hiram Fong

REGRETS

Administrator Train
Jim Lynn
Sen. Buckley
Rep. Wiggins
Rep. Frey



Talking Points

I understand that the Senate will complete action today on the Clean Air Act Amendments, and that the House is in the midst of floor consideration. I have several concerns with respect to these two Bills.

Auto Emissions:

- In January 1975, I asked the Congress to modify the present auto emissions standards schedule, which in light of energy and economic needs are overly stringent.
- On May 28 and again yesterday I transmitted to Chairman Harley Staggers my position strongly supportive of the Dingell-Broyhill Amendment. As you know, this amendment would stabilize emissions standards for three years, imposing stricter standards for two years thereafter.
- Relative to the standards in the present House and Senate Bills, Dingell-Broyhill would result in consumer cost savings of billions of dollars and fuel savings of billions of gallons.

Stationary Source Issues:

- As my May 28 letter to Harley Staggers and Jennings Randolph indicated, sections of the House and Senate Bills dealing with stationary sources contain numerous unacceptable provisions.
- I understand that there are dozens of amendments being offered on the House floor, as well as the possibility of a substitute measure.
- In light of the potential for substantial amending actions and the lengthy Conference that is expected, it is difficult to take a position on the House or Senate Bills at this time.
- We have identified several problem areas, and we anticipate working with the Minority to resolve these problems.



VOTER REGISTRATION ACT

The House is about to consider the so-called Post Card Registration bill. My principal concerns about this bill focus on the intrusion by the Federal Government in matters the primary responsibility for which the Constitution has left to the states, and the increased potential and likelihood for fraud.

The bill lacks necessary safeguards for protection of legitimate state interests and appears to give near absolute authority to a Voting Registration Administration in Washington:

-- The bill leaves to the Administration the decision as to what information required by state law is necessary to include on the post card registration form to identify and determine the qualifications of individuals and to prevent fraud.

-- The bill does not require either consultation with or approval of the appropriate state officials when this form is prepared.

-- At its option, the Administration may provide personnel and other assistance to the states upon request to assist in the registration of individuals.

I would like to get your thoughts on this bill, and how the issue should be handled.

