

The original documents are located in Box 48, folder “Women - Women's Campaign Fund” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 12, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: SHEILA WEIDENFELD
FROM: PAT LINDH *PL*
SUBJECT: ELECTION RESULTS

I don't know if you have received a copy of this, but this certainly puts the election results of women in great perspective. If you need any further information on this give me a call. Fredi Wechsler has been very helpful and could be a very good contact for you.

We have sent over a schedule proposal for Mrs Ford to 'drop-by' an Economic Briefing of 200 women - the leaders of all the major women's groups in the country - Hope she can do it - PL



November 8, 1974
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Fredi Wechsler (202) 785-2911
National Women's Political Caucus

Betsey Wright (202) 462-8606
National Women's Education Fund

WOMEN'S ELECTION CENTRAL ANNOUNCES
STATE LEGISLATIVE, STATE-WIDE GAINS

When State Legislatures reconvene in 1975, the number of women members will have increased by 26% according to data gathered by Women's Election Central, a joint project of the National Women's Political Caucus, the National Women's Education Fund and the Women's Campaign Fund.

With a dozen races still to be decided, 591 women were elected to state law making bodies, representing an increase of 125 over present totals. Women will now make up 8% of the nation's state legislatures. As evidence of women's increased participation in politics, Jane McMichael, NWPC Executive Director, cited 1969 figures which showed only 305 women state legislators.

Other notable gains include three additional Congresswomen for a total of 18; Ella Grasso, Connecticut, the first woman ever to be elected Governor in her own right and Mary Anne Krupsak, the first woman elected Lt. Governor in New York.

Spokeswomen for the organizations also cited gains in the numbers of women elected to state-wide posts this election year.

"Women newly elected to offices like Secretary of State,

-more-



State Treasurer, Auditor and Superintendent of Public Instruction show an increase of 36% over the last election year," Ms. McMichael said.

Betsy Wright, National Women's Education Fund director, noted some important "firsts." Minnesota elected Joan Growe Secretary of State, the first woman to hold state-wide office in that state's history. March Fong, the first Asian-American woman to win a state-wide office, also is the first woman ever elected Secretary of State in California.

North Carolina chose Susie Sharp as the first woman in the country to hold the office of Chief Justice of a State Supreme Court. In Alabama Janie Shores became the first woman in that state elected as an Associate Justice of the State Supreme Court.

"In all, 31 women were elected to state-wide posts out of a total of 51 major party women candidates who ran," Women's Campaign Fund director Maureen Aspin stated. "We think the success rate of women candidates is extraordinary at this level," she said. The 31 will join 14 incumbents, whose terms were not up in 1974, for a total of 45 women state-wide office holders.

States which showed particular increases in the numbers of women elected to legislative offices include several which have not yet ratified the Equal Rights Amendment. "We believe the addition of many pro-ERA women legislators increased the chances for passage of the Amendment in 1975," Ms. McMichael said.



Particularly noteworthy were gains in Arizona, Florida, Georgia and North Carolina. Many of the women who won legislative seats were Caucus members who ran on pro-ERA platforms," she said. (33 states have already ratified the Amendment; 38 are needed for passage.)

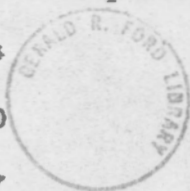
Other states showing impressive gains in the numbers of women legislators are: Colorado, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, (which elected Geraldine Travis, the first Black ever to sit in its legislature), New Hampshire and Rhode Island. South Carolina elected the first Black woman, Juanita Groggins, to its State Legislature.

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STATE LEGISLATIVE DATA

	<u>Size of Legislature</u>	<u># of 1974 Women Members</u>	<u># of 1975 Women Members</u>
Alabama	142	1	1
Alaska	60	6	8 Incomplete
Arkansas	135	3	2
California	120	2	2 Incomplete
Colorado	100	10	16
Connecticut	187	21	26
Delaware	62	8	7
Florida	160	7	12
Georgia	236	2	9
Hawaii	75	4	10
Idaho	105	6	7
Illinois	236	11	14
Indiana	150	9	10
Iowa	150	10	11
Kansas	165	5	8
Kentucky	127	7	7 (no '74 election)
Louisiana	144	3	3 (no '74 election)
Maine	184	19	23
Maryland	185	11	19
Massachusetts	280	10	15
Michigan	148	6	9
Minnesota	201	6	6
Mississippi	174	6	6 (no '74 election)
Missouri	197	12	12 Incomplete
Montana	150	9	14
Nebraska	49	1	0
Nevada	60	5	7



	<u>Size of Legislature</u>	<u># of 1974 Women Members</u>	<u># of 1975 Women Members</u>
New Hampshire	424	89	104
New Jersey	120	9 (no '74 election)	9
New Mexico	112	2	5
New York	210	7	9 Incomplete
North Carolina	170	9	14
North Dakota	153	14	15
Ohio	132	7	8
Oklahoma	149	4	6 Incomplete
Oregon	90	11	11
Pennsylvania	253	7	8
Rhode Island	150	4	9
South Carolina	198	5	7
South Dakota	105	6	10
Tennessee	132	5	6
Texas	181	6	8
Utah	104	6	8
Vermont	180	20	22 Incomplete
Virginia	140	6 (no '74 elections)	6
Washington	147	14	17
West Virginia	134	10	10
Wisconsin	132	7	10
Wyoming	<u>92</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>
TOTALS	7,581	466	591



May Hobbs
1:30

Year of 1975 Women Members	Year of 1974 Women Members	Year of Legislature	State
104	83	154	New Hampshire
9	9	150	New Jersey
5	5	115	New Mexico
9 Incomplete	7	210	New York
14	9	170	North Carolina
12	14	153	North Dakota
8	7	150	Ohio
6 Incomplete	4	149	Oklahoma
11	11	90	Oregon
8	7	273	Pennsylvania
9	4	150	Rhode Island
7	3	108	South Carolina
10	6	107	South Dakota
6	3	132	Tennessee
8	6	181	Texas
8	6	104	Utah
22 Incomplete	20	180	Vermont
6 (no 1st election)	6	140	Virginia
14	14	147	Washington
10	10	134	West Virginia
10	7	132	Wisconsin
1	2	82	Wyoming
251	166	1,581	TOTALS



(WOMEN CANDIDATES)

(BY SARA FRITZ)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- A WOMEN'S FUND-RAISING GROUP ANNOUNCED TODAY IT EXPECTS TO CONTRIBUTE \$100,000 TO FEMALE CANDIDATES IN NOVEMBER WITH THE CHIEF GOAL OF BREAKING UP "A VIRTUALLY EXCLUSIVE MEN'S CLUB" IN THE SENATE.

LEADERS OF THE WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN FUND CLAIM IT REPRESENTS THE FIRST TIME ANY GROUP HAS TAKEN ON THE TASK OF GATHERING A SUBSTANTIAL SUM OF MONEY TO ELECT WOMEN, WHO MAKE UP FEWER THAN 7 PER CENT OF THE NATION'S ELECTED OFFICIALS.

FOUNDED IN 1974 WITH A LOAN FROM GENERAL MOTORS HEIR STEWART MOTT, THE FUND PROVIDED \$22,500 TO 28 WOMEN CANDIDATES FOR STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICES THAT YEAR IN AMOUNTS RANGING FROM \$1,750 TO \$100. SEVENTEEN OF THOSE WOMEN WON.

ALTHOUGH THE FUND'S PROJECTED \$100,000 FOR 1976 PALES IN THE FACE OF AN ESTIMATED \$400 MILLION SPENT ON POLITICS IN A PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN YEAR, THE FOUNDERS CLAIM MOST OF THE MONEY FROM REGULAR SOURCES HAS NEVER BEEN AVAILABLE TO WOMEN CANDIDATES.

IN ILLINOIS, FOR EXAMPLE, FUND MONEY HELPED EARLEEN COLLINS WIN THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR STATE SENATE LAST MARCH IN A CAMPAIGN CENTERED ON THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT. A \$400 DONATION FROM THE FUND WAS HER LARGEST CONTRIBUTION.

THE WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN FUND ALREADY HAS CONTRIBUTED ABOUT \$16,900 THIS YEAR TO 12 WOMEN CANDIDATES THIS YEAR, INCLUDING MS. COLLINS, FIVE WOMEN CANDIDATES FOR THE SENATE, FOUR CANDIDATES FOR THE HOUSE AND TWO FOR STATEWIDE OFFICES.

FUND LEADERS SAID IT CONTRIBUTED \$6,500 IN "EARLY MONEY" TO THE WOMEN SENATE CANDIDATES IN AN EFFORT TO "REINTEGRATE" THAT CURRENTLY ALL-MALE CHAMBER.

"MEN HAVE HAD 200 YEARS TO RUN THE U.S. SENATE AS A VIRTUALLY EXCLUSIVE MEN'S CLUB," SAID FUND BOARD MEMBER MAYA MILLER.

ONE OF THE SENATE CANDIDATES, JEANETTE REIBMAN OF PENNSYLVANIA, WHO RECEIVED \$1,000 FROM THE FUND, ALREADY HAS LOST IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY. THE OTHERS ARE BELLA ABZUG OF NEW YORK, PAISY MINK OF HAWAII, GLORIA SCHAFFER OF CONNECTICUT AND CAROLYN WARNER OF ARIZONA, ALL DEMOCRATS.

TO QUALIFY FOR MONEY, THE FUND LEADERS SAID, A CANDIDATE MUST BE A WOMAN WITH A FAIR CHANCE OF WINNING WHO HAS TAKEN A "PROGRESSIVE" STAND ON THE ISSUES -- INCLUDING AN ENDORSEMENT OF ERA AND ABORTION.

CHAIRWOMAN ANN ZILL SAID THE FUND NOW HAS 6,000 "REGULAR SUPPORTERS", MOST OF THEM WOMEN WITH A MEDIAN INCOME OF ABOUT \$12,000.

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Women's Campaign Fund

Winter 1975

Dear Contributor:

When we began the Women's Campaign Fund last January we knew it would be an experiment. No one ever before had tried raising money for women only, much less for progressive women only. But it was obvious that women found much more serious problems than men in raising campaign contributions, and we were convinced that others would recognize that need. Happily, we — and you — were right.

In a year in which campaign fund-raising in general and direct-mail efforts in particular were down, the Women's Campaign Fund moved up. Your contribution helped make an experimental organization a success not only in raising money but in electing women.

The WCF Board is extremely grateful for your help — and so are the 28 candidates who received from \$100 to \$2,500 in contributions. On behalf of these candidates, we extend our thanks for your commitment and support.

Attached is a sheet telling a little about each candidate the Fund supported, the contribution she received, and her percentage on election day. Some of those elections were painfully close. Others were less dramatic but in fact substantially reduced the margin of previous races and helped set the stage for future campaigns.

With that in mind, the WCF Board voted unanimously to move on to the next campaign. The Fund will be dormant for a few months, to save on overhead costs. In the spring we will again begin fund-raising, using several different strategies. Our 1975 objective will be to raise sufficient advance money to launch a much broader appeal for women in 1976.

We hope that you are pleased with our candidates and our success in 1974, and that if you are, you will contribute to keep the organization moving ahead. We're proud of having contributed \$21,000 this year, and we believe that with an early start and early money, we'll be able to raise and distribute an even greater amount to more candidates in '76.

Most of all we are grateful to you for your help this year. This is one case where there is no doubt that your contribution made a difference.

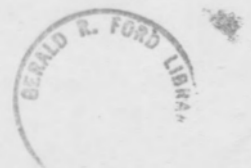
Sincerely,

Maureen S. Aspin

Maureen S. Aspin
Executive Director

P.S.

Your cancelled check can serve as your receipt for IRS purposes.



Women's Campaign Fund Endorsed Candidates for Federal Office

Bella Abzug (Dem) 20th Congressional District, New York - \$100 - 80%

Rep. Abzug is a recognized leader of the women's movement not only in the House of Representatives but throughout the nation.

Patricia Bosch (Dem) 3rd Congressional District, Arizona - \$500 - 49%

An active Democrat with long experience in party affairs, Ms. Bosch supported better land use legislation, cutting the defense budget, and women's issues.

Yvonne B. Burke (Dem) 28th Congressional District, California - \$100 - 82%

Rep. Burke spent her first term in Congress working primarily in the area of human needs. She has been a major proponent of opening the Democratic Party to minorities.

Shirley Chisholm (Dem) 12th Congressional District, New York - \$100 - 80%

Rep. Chisholm has consistently worked for legislation to help her Harlem constituents whose needs mirror those of the poor throughout the country.

Cardiss Collins (Dem) 7th Congressional District, Illinois - \$100 - 90%

Rep. Collins is one of four black women in the U.S. House of Representatives where she ably votes for her constituents.

Millicent Fenwick (Rep) 5th Congressional District, New Jersey - \$2,000 - 56%

Ms. Fenwick is the former Director of the State Division of Consumer Affairs. As a state legislator, she supported low-income housing, prison reforms, and strong environmental protection laws.

Margaret Heckler (Rep) 10th Congressional District, Massachusetts - \$500 - 63%

Incumbent Congresswoman Heckler is well-known as a progressive and independent Republican. She has been a strong advocate of ERA and credit reform for women.

Elizabeth Holtzman (Dem) 16th Congressional District, New York - \$100 - 79%

After upsetting an incumbent Congressman to win her seat, Rep. Holtzman distinguished herself as a member of the Judiciary Committee during the impeachment hearings.

Barbara Jordan (Dem) 18th Congressional District, Texas - \$100 - 86%

The first black woman elected to Congress from the South, Rep. Jordan was also an outstanding member of the Judiciary Committee during the hearings on impeachment.

Martha Keys (Dem) 2nd Congressional District, Kansas - \$1,500 - 55%

A liberal Democrat, Ms. Keys was the Kansas coordinator for the '72 McGovern campaign. She has been active in education and local politics. WCF contributed in both her primary and general elections.

Helen Meyner (Dem) 13th Congressional District, New Jersey - \$1,750 - 57%

Ms. Meyner is a liberal Democrat with strong positions on women's issues. Her concerns cover the whole range of human needs.

Nina Miglioni (Dem) 6th Congressional District, Alabama - \$1,500 - 43%

Ms. Miglioni served on the Birmingham City Council for almost 11 years. As a Councilwoman, she showed her great concern for urban problems, especially those of the poor.

Maya Miller (Dem) United States Senate, Nevada - \$200 - 33% (3 way race)

Known especially as an environmentalist, Ms. Miller astounded everyone with her strong showing in the primary. Unfortunately, it was not enough to give her the nomination.

Alberta Murphy (Dem) 7th Congressional District, Alabama - \$500 - 34%

A lawyer who has worked for many years in the civil rights area, Ms. Murphy lost in an early primary to a conservative Democrat.

Colleen O'Connor (Dem) 41st Congressional District, California - \$500 - 44%

A liberal Democrat, Ms. O'Connor limited her campaign contributions to a total of \$42,500 (the Congressional salary). She campaigned hard on environmental and women's issues.

Judy Petty (Rep) 2nd Congressional District, Arkansas - \$1,750 - 42%

Ms. Petty gained nationwide publicity in her race against incumbent Wilbur Mills. Her stand on women's issues was very good.

Betty Roberts (Dem) United States Senate, Oregon - \$2,500 - 45%

Ms. Roberts has had an outstanding career in the state legislature where she has championed much of Oregon's progressive legislation, particularly women's issues.

Fran Ryan (Dem) 12th Congressional District, Ohio - \$1,000 - 49%

As a member of the City Council, Ms. Ryan has had an excellent record of support for human needs.

Pat Schroeder (Dem) 1st Congressional District, Colorado - \$1,000 - 59%

Rep. Pat Schroeder has been working hard as a member of the House Armed Services Committee to cut defense spending, in addition to being a strong advocate of women's rights.

Virginia Smith (Rep) 3rd Congressional District, Nebraska - \$1,000 - 50%

Both candidates in this race were conservative, but Ms. Smith supported ERA. She won the race despite strong opposition to a woman running for the seat.

Gladys Spellman (Dem) 5th Congressional District, Maryland - \$500 - 53%

Ms. Spellman was the first woman member of her County Board of Commissioners and the first woman to head the National Association of Counties. She is a strong advocate of women's rights.

Betty Spence (Dem) 12th Congressional District, Illinois - \$300 - 37%

Ms. Spence has been an active Democrat for many years. Her campaign centered primarily around consumer issues.

Women's Campaign Fund Endorsed Candidates for State Office

Polly Baca Barragan* (Dem) Colorado State Legislature - \$200 - 69%

One of the few Mexican-American women running for public office, Ms. Barragan is expected to be a new political voice for minorities.

March Fong (Dem) Secretary of State, California - \$1,500 - 57%

One of only two women in the California legislature, Ms. Fong is the first woman elected statewide in our most populous state. Her legislative work has been in education, health, and consumerism.

Willie Hardy* (Dem) District of Columbia City Council - \$200 - 83%

An outspoken activist for minorities, Ms. Hardy will add a new dimension to Washington's newly elected City Council.

Jane Hardaway (Rep) Public Service Commission, Tennessee - \$1,000 - 45%

The first woman to run for the PSC in Tennessee, Ms. Hardaway ran as a consumer advocate.

Hope Kading (Rep) Lieutenant Governor, Idaho - \$300 - 25% (3-way race)

Ms. Kading was the major force behind speedy passage of the ERA in Idaho. She organized the "Vote Rockers" who brought together the AAUW, LWV, and PTA as a statewide lobbying force. Unfortunately, she lost in the primary.

Arie Taylor* (Dem) State Legislature, Colorado - \$200 - 81%

An incumbent state legislator, Ms. Taylor is a black lawyer who had strong support from both women and minorities.

*In an effort to show our support for minority women as they begin in the political process, WCF supported these three women for local office.