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ID 783630 THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DATE: 17 JUL 78

FOR ACTION: JIM FALLOWS

INFO ONLY:

SUBJECT: CAMPBELL MEMO RE LETTERS YO INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING CIVIL SERVICE REFORM

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+ RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052) +

+ BY: 1200 PM WEDNESDAY 19 JUL 78 +

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ACTION REQUESTED:

STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20415
CHAIRMAN

July 12, 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Alan K. Campbell

SUBJECT: Letters to Individuals and Organizations Supporting Your Civil Service Reforms

There have been a large number of individuals and organizations who are publicly supporting your efforts to reform the Federal personnel system. I think it would be useful for you to send letters to these supporters since I am sure that would help to maintain their interest and efforts on our behalf.

The attached suggested letters are prepared for different categories of supporters. These are:

1. Former Cabinet Members.

2. Former Commissioners and Chairmen of the Civil Service Commission.

3. Academic and Practitioner Experts in Public Management.

4. Leaders of Professional and Civic Organizations.

We would be pleased to assist in the preparation of the letters if that would be helpful to your staff.

Enclosures

TO: Leaders of Professional and Civic Organizations (See attached listing)

Dear _____:

I am grateful for the support your organization has given to my civil service reform proposals. I wish to advise you about where the proposals now stand in the Congress.

The Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs recently voted to report the bill out. With one major exception (the elimination of any modifications to veterans' preference), the Committee's actions were favorable. We shall try to get this restored on the Senate floor and will be helped in that effort by the 16 to 9 House Committee vote in favor of my proposal in this area.

The House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service has not completed markup, nor has it taken action on key provisions of the bill, such as the Senior Executive Service and merit pay for mangers and supervisors. The pace at which the Committee acts will determine the likelihood of floor action during this session of Congress.

We are at a critical stage. I believe that the enactment of this legislation will bring about changes consistent with the objectives of your organization. Your continued public support during the coming weeks would contribute to this end.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Carter

TO: Academic and Practitioner Experts in Public Management
(See attached listing)

Dear _____:

Chairman Campbell shared with me your response to Senators Ribicoff and Percy concerning our proposals to reform the Federal Civil Service system. I want to personally thank you for your support and to advise you about where the proposals now stand in the Congress.

The Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs recently voted to report the bill. With one major exception (the elimination of any modifications to veterans' preference), the Committee's actions were favorable. We shall try to get this restored on the Senate floor and will be helped in that effort by the 16 to 9 House Committee vote in favor of my proposal in this area.

The House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service has not completed markup, nor has it taken action on key provisions of the bill, such as the Senior Executive Service and merit pay for managers and supervisors. We are concerned that amendments aimed at limiting managerial discretion will be introduced.

We are at a critical stage. Unless the bill gets to the floor of both Houses before the August recess, passage during this session of Congress will be more difficult to achieve.

I consider this legislation to be the key to fulfilling my commitment to make the Federal Government more responsive to the American people. Your continued work for its enactment would be a contribution to your profession.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Carter

TO: Former Chairmen and Commissioners of U.S. Civil Service Commission (See attached listing)

Dear _____:

I am grateful for your support for our efforts to achieve civil service reform during this session of Congress. Based on your firsthand knowledge of the Federal personnel system, the letter which you and other former Chairmen and Commissioners of the Civil Service Commission sent to Chairmen of the House and Senate Committees was especially significant.

We remain at a critical stage in the Congress. Although the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs recently voted to report the bill, the proposed modifications to veterans' preference, for which you expressed support in your letter, were deleted entirely. We will attempt to have an amendment introduced on the Senate Floor to restore these provisions.

The House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service is still in markup and has not yet considered the Senior Executive Service and other key management provisions. We are concerned that amendments aimed at constraining managerial discretion will be introduced.

To ensure passage of the bill during this session of Congress, floor action in both Houses before the August recess would be desirable. Public reaffirmation of your interest in the bill would be most useful in the coming weeks.

I look forward to your continued participation in the efforts of my Administration to revitalize the Federal personnel system.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Carter

TO: Former Cabinet Officers (See attached listing)

Dear _____:

I am grateful for your support for our efforts to achieve civil service reform. The letter which you and other former Cabinet officers sent to Chairmen of the House and Senate Committees was one of the most significant endorsements we received.

We remain at a critical stage in the Congress. Although the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee recently voted to report the bill out, the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee is still in markup. Issues which are of particular interest to you, the Senior Executive Service and the merit pay proposals, have not yet been acted on by that Committee. We are concerned that amendments may be proposed which would hamper the effectiveness of both proposals.

To ensure enactment of the bill during this session, floor action before the August recess may be necessary. Your public support for it would be of vital assistance during the coming weeks.

I look forward to your continued participation in the efforts of my Administration to improve government efficiency.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Carter