

**The original documents are located in Box 130, folder “Feb. 19, 1974 - Statement on Lost Seat in 5th Congressional District” of the Gerald R. Ford Vice Presidential Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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STATEMENT BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD.

I am deeply disappointed by the results of the election in Michigan's Fifth Congressional District. No doubt many factors figured in the outcome. One factor must be the extraordinarily heavy spending on behalf of the Democratic candidate. It also seems clear that Republicans failed to turn out in adequate numbers in support of the GOP candidate. At the same time, the temporary turmoil plaguing Michigan's economy would have to be considered an underlying cause of the Republican candidate's defeat. And the skepticism prevalent about politics today certainly added to the adverse impact of economic conditions. I feel confident that as economic conditions improve, the fortunes of the Republican Party will improve.

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2/19/74

Statement by Vice President Gerald R. Ford

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I AM DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED BY THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION IN MICHIGAN'S FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT. NO DOUBT MANY FACTORS FIGURED IN THE OUTCOME. ONE FACTOR MUST BE THE EXTRAORDINARILY HEAVY SPENDING ON BEHALF OF THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE. IT ALSO SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE REPUBLICANS FAILED TO TURN OUT IN ADE- QUATE NUMBERS IN SUPPORT OF THE GOP CANDIDATE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE TEMPORARY TURMOIL PLAGUING MICHIGAN'S ECONOMY WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED AN UNDERLYING CAUSE OF THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE'S DEFEAT. AND THE SKEPTICISM PREVALENT ABOUT POLITICS TODAY CERTAINLY ADDED TO THE ADVERSE IMPACT OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. I FEEL CONFIDENT THAT AS ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IMPROVE, THE FORTUNES OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WILL IMPROVE.





OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Statement by Vice President Gerald R. Ford

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, February 19, 1974

CONTACT:  
Paul Miltich: 456-2364

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