

The original documents are located in Box C47, folder “Presidential Handwriting, 8/27/1976” of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

FOR COMMCENTER USE ONLY

IMMEDIATE
PRECEDENCEUNCLAS
CLASSIFICATION

FROM: JAMES CONNOR

TO: JIM BAKER

- VAIL -

INFO:

DEX _____

DAC 229

GPS _____

LDX _____

PAGES 6

TTY _____

CITE _____

DTG: 271915ZRELEASED BY: [Signature]TOR: 271921Z

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

27 PM 3.38

1976 AUG 27 19 15

August 26, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM BAKER

SUBJECT:

Participation of State and Local
Officials in the Fall Campaign

On Tuesday, August 17, in Kansas City, a Committee of Elected Officials for the President was announced by Co-chairmen Dan Evans, Governor of Washington State, and Pete Wilson, Mayor of San Diego. This Committee was organized to activate State, county and local officials throughout the country in support of the President.

The President is regarded very highly by many of the officials, both Republican and Democratic, because of his efforts to return more decision-making to the local level and to simplify legislation and regulations that have hampered their own administrations.

The initial Committee reflected support by Governors, State Legislators, Mayors, and County Officials. (See Attachment A). It is anticipated that these officials can play a constructive role in the Campaign, both in an advisory capacity and in seeking additional commitments by elected officials throughout the country to support the President in November.

Now that this Committee is organized and initial interest is high, it is important that the members be given a constructive role in the Campaign. Evans and Wilson are extremely capable people and have indicated their willingness to work energetically. However, it will be essential for them to have a contact point in the PFC with whom they can work on a daily basis and from whom they can receive staff support. Steve McConahey, Special Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs, was instrumental in organizing this group initially and will be available to act as a contact point in the White House.

I suggest that you, Steve and I meet to discuss the role and activities of this Committee as soon as possible so that we can take advantage of their interest and support in weeks ahead.

Attachment

TAB
A

President Ford Committee

1828 L STREET, N.W., SUITE 250, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 (202) 457-6400

FOR RELEASE

Monday, August 16, 1976

The formation of a group of state, county and local officials in support of President Ford's nomination and election was announced today by the President Ford Committee.

The group is headed by Governor Dan Evans of Washington and Mayor Pete Wilson of San Diego.

The group has broad support from across the country and will campaign aggressively for the President's election, they said.

Evans, the Nation's senior Governor, said "President Ford has succeeded where others have failed. He is a proven friend of local government who has done more than any President in a generation to shift power from the Potomac back to the people. We prefer the proven performance of the President to the promises of Jimmy Carter."

Evans said the President's accomplishments are "the greatest untold story of the last two years."

Wilson said: "The wisdom, the integrity and the political courage of President Ford in exercising more than 50 vetoes in 2 years and his legislative skill in being sustained in all but a handful have given great hope to those local officials who see the future of America's cities as being tied to the health and full productive capacity of the American private sector rather than to an endless series of stop-gap so-called emergency measures propounded by the Congress which will surely aggravate inflation, though professed as a cure for unemployment.

"The President's economic policies have brought us down from double digit inflation and stimulated the economy to the point where three million more American men and women are employed than when he assumed the office of President."

Evans and Wilson stated that the committee would work to gain additional support for the President throughout the country on a bipartisan basis.

Released was a list of officials who have endorsed the President and who would act as a steering committee to assist in the overall effort.

Governors:

Robert Ray	Iowa
Robert Bennett	Kansas
William Milliken	Michigan
Christopher Bond	Missouri
James Rhodes	Ohio
James Holshouser	North Carolina
Arch Moore	West Virginia

State
Legislators:

Tom Jensen	Minority Leader, Tennessee State Legislature
George Pillsbury	State Senator, Minnesota
Mary George	State Senator, Hawaii
Paul Prioto	State Assembly, California
Dixon Arnett	State Assembly, California
Bud Pardini	Minority Whip, Washington State Legislature

Mayors:

Ralph Perk	Cleveland, Ohio
Richard Carver	Peoria, Illinois
James Taft	Cranston, Rhode Island
E. Clay Shaw, Jr.	Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
Angello Martinelli	Yonkers, New York
Jack Hunter	Youngstown, Ohio
Harry Kinney	Albuquerque, N. Mexico
Stanley Cmich	Canton, Ohio
Lewis Murphy	Tucson, Arizona
Vincent Cianci	Providence, Rhode Island
Tom Moody	Columbus, Ohio
James Richey	Lakewood, Colorado

<u>County Officials:</u>	Louis Mills	County Executive, Orange County New York (2nd Vice President of National Association of Counties)
	Doris W. Dealamon	Freeholder-Director Somerset County, New Jersey
	J. W. Stevens	Commissioner, Broward County, Fla.
	John Brewer	Commissioner, Kent County, Michigan
	Phillip Elstrom	Chairman, Board of Commissioners, Kane County, Illinois
	Daniel Mikesell	Supervisor, San Bernardino County California
	John Klein	County Executive, Suffolk County New York