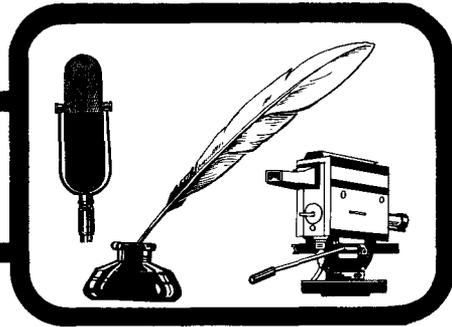


The original documents are located in Box D8, folder “Ford Press Releases - Newsletter, 1965-1966” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

FOR RELEASE
Sept. 8, 1965

WASHINGTON-- Halting the normal use of Mexican nationals as farm workers to harvest Michigan crops is hurting Michigan farmers and hiking grocery bills for everyone, Rep. Gerald R. Ford said today in a newsletter to constituents.

Michigan has caught the brunt of the damage caused by the Department of Labor blockade of Mexican nationals, Ford said, citing pickles lost on the vines, cherries rotting on trees and the possibility of an "alarming" drop in apple harvesting.

"Regrettably, President Johnson has preferred to cut off farm labor supply and let farmers suffer loss of crop and income," Ford said. "And the consumer has been hit with higher prices at the grocery store."

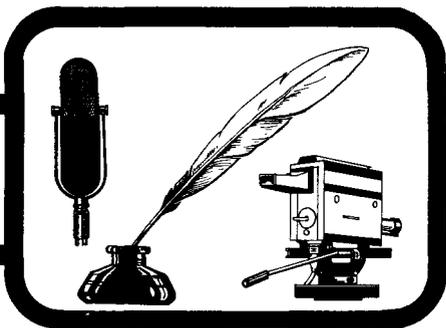
Ford recalled that farm authorities have warned Secretary of Labor Wirtz that Michigan's pickle harvest is suffering because of the reduction in Mexican national field workers.

The situation in pickle harvesting would be "very different" if growers could use the 11,000 workers available last year, Ford said.

Turning to House action approving an agreement with Canada for reducing tariffs on the importation of autos and automotive parts, Ford said he endorsed the action and supported the President in this instance.

Discussing finances, Ford said the gold supply of the U.S. "has dwindled" from \$23 billion to less than \$14 billion in the past eight years. He pointed to recommendations of a Republican committee headed by former federal budget director Maurice H. Stans calling for "realistic reductions of government overseas economic and military programs, and for steps to increase the return flow of dollars."

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

For Release
Sept. 15, 1965

WASHINGTON---Halting the flow of U.S. public money to nations feeding both the Communist war machine in North Vietnam and hostile Cuba is a "common-sense restriction," Congressman Gerald R. Ford said today in a message to his Fifth District constituents.

Applauding House action that slapped on the ban, Ford revealed that "free world ships carry 45 percent of North Vietnam's seaborne imports and 85 percent of seaborne exports."

Norway, Greece and Lebanon, each receiving U.S. handouts, are among nations "whose ships have delivered goods" to enemy seaports this year, Ford said.

"Great Britain no longer receives economic or military assistance and would not be affected by the amendment" ordered by the House, Ford explained. However, he pointed out that 44 ships flying the British flag delivered material to North Vietnam during the first half of this year.

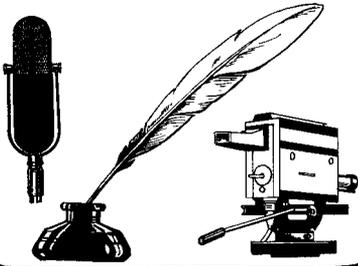
Ford said he favors clamping off further aid to India and Pakistan "as long as they are at war between themselves." Strong opposition by President Johnson and the "Democrat-dominated House" blocked adoption of this restriction.

The House Republican leader quoted GOP members of the Appropriations Committee as saying "the foreign aid program needs a major revamping, and the bulk of the American people are thoroughly in accord with this feeling.

"Our taxpayers would take a far better view of the program if they could see that the accomplishments were more favorable to the people of the recipient countries."

Ford called for more drastic cuts in foreign aid spending, tighter administrative policies, and "greater cooperation" from U.S. allies and the developing nations.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

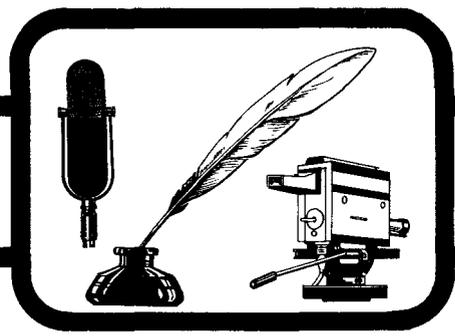
For Release
Sept. 29, 1965

WASHINGTON --- The life insurance program adopted for all servicemen last week was praised by Rep. Gerald R. Ford in his latest newsletter to constituents. "It satisfies the criticism of our insurance system for men in the armed forces which I mentioned four weeks ago," Ford said. He stated that he was especially concerned with the fact that under current law the parents of an unmarried serviceman who are not dependent on him would get no government insurance or VA benefits.

Under the bill sent to the President last week all servicemen will have \$10,000 insurance coverage at a cost to them of \$2 per month. If the serviceman prefers, he can have a \$5,000 policy for \$1 per month, or if he wishes, he may reject the insurance outright. The insurance will be provided by commercial companies under a group policy.

In his report Ford also told Fifth District constituents that his attendance record during this session of Congress stands at 90 percent in spite of the fact that as Minority Leader he has been called upon to make 125 speeches in 32 states since January.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER



For release October 6, 1965

WASHINGTON, D. C.----- The legislative road ahead for the "highway beauty" bill is filled with ruts and potholes, Congressman Gerald R. Ford said today.

In a newsletter to his Fifth District constituents, the House Republican Leader described the proposed law aimed at controlling billboards and junk yards as "replete with unworkable, unwise, and unfair provisions."

While saying "all of us want our highways to be beautiful," Ford was critical of "nine weaknesses" of the bill, which the House Committee earlier "hastily approved at the demand of President Johnson."

In rapping the Administration-favored proposal, Ford said the bill would give the Secretary of Commerce "authority to control some signs and not others in the same areas."

The Secretary of Commerce "would have full authority to determine how all unzoned property along the highway is to be used," Ford said. "There is nothing in the bill which restricts his power to matters involving billboards and junk yards. This is unwarranted power for a federal official over a local problem."

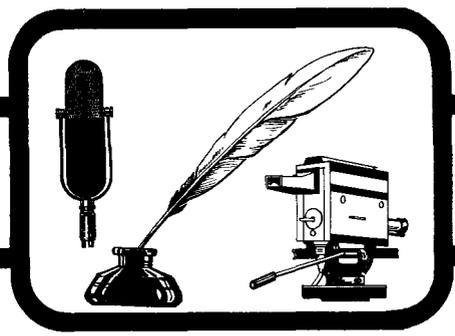
The Republican leader was critical of the undetermined cost of the program, saying "it is certain to far exceed the \$320 million authorized in the bill for 1966 and 1967."

Cautioning that "it is extremely doubtful" whether all states could comply with the law by the 1968 deadline, Ford said at least 15 states "will have to amend their constitutions."

In a concluding swipe at the proposed highway beauty plan, Ford said "while the objectives of the legislation are laudable, it is obvious that this bill, forced upon Congress by President Johnson, must be improved."

The bill was scheduled to be debated in the House this week.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

For release
October 13, 1965

WASHINGTON, D.C.----- Legislation adopted so far by the 89th Congress faces a searching, bi-partisan going-over in 1966, Rep. Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich) predicted today.

Pointing to "oversights, loopholes, and rough corners" in public laws that sailed through Congress this year, Ford pledged Republican cooperation in correcting "errors" and redeeming "mistakes."

The House Republican Leader recalled that Senator Mike Mansfield has been critical of some legislation adopted by this Congress.

Mansfield noted the volume of bills passed by Congress, "some of them very hastily," and recommended "an assessment of current and ultimate cost" to the taxpayers.

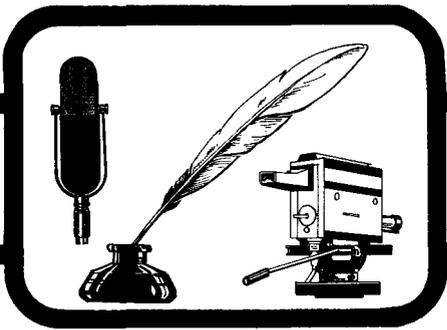
The Senate Majority Leader proposed that Congress next year "spend less time on new legislation and more time correcting oversights in legislation just passed."

Ford noted that Mansfield plans to set up committees "whose functions it would be to tighten up the hasty enactments in general and evaluate the degree of efficiency with which they are being administered by the executive" branch.

"All during this session Republicans have been trying desperately to help Democrats keep their 'oversights,' loopholes,' and 'rough corners' at a minimum," Ford said in a newsletter to his Fifth District constituents.

Ford added, "They (Democrats) may be assured of our complete cooperation next year in an effort to correct the errors and redeem mistakes of this session."

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

For release

October 20, 1965

WASHINGTON, D. C.----- "More realistic" regulations governing the Administration's "pay-your-neighbor's-rent" program are needed, Congressman Gerald R. Ford said today.

The Republican leader reported in a newsletter to his Fifth District constituents that the House in knocking out money sought to operate the controversial rent subsidy plan "served notice" that it wanted rules to be rewritten.

By a vote of 185 to 162, with some Democrats joining Republicans, the House rebuffed the Administration.

The revolutionary housing bill signed Aug. 10 was adopted by the House on a squeaker vote of 208 to 202. New action came when the House made a decision against appropriating public money to finance the program.

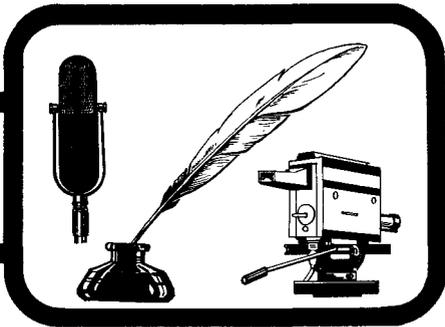
Ford said that the proposal as it stands "is designed not to assist the poor but rather the 'moderate' income group."

The House rebelled at the provision allowing a person having more than \$24,000 in assets, excluding personal property, to be eligible for rent supplements, Ford said.

With the adjournment of Congress for this session, Ford said members of his Washington staff will expand operations of his Grand Rapids office from Nov. 1 through the middle of December.

The House Republican leader said he hopes to "spend considerable time" in the Fifth District despite a number of speaking engagements which are among responsibilities of his Congressional high post.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER



For release

October 27, 1965

WASHINGTON, D. C.,---- A late-hour Congressional move that temporarily stalled a "steadily onward" march of federal control over local education was hailed today by Rep. Gerald R. Ford.

Action that blocked spending of \$36 million the first year for a National Teacher Corps will give Congress in 1966 an opportunity to "take another look" at the legislation that authorized the program, Ford said.

Describing the teacher corps' proposal as "revolutionary," Ford said "if it must go into effect, possibly some of the 'rough corners' and 'oversights' can be remedied next year."

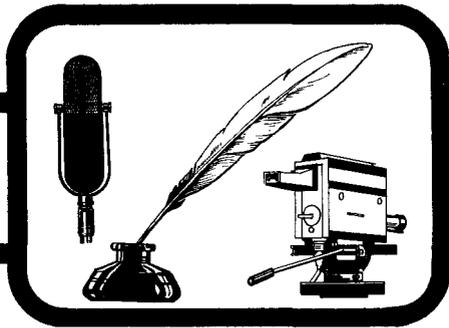
Ford noted that the House voted to establish the Teacher Corps by a 226 to 152 margin and a day later switched its position by deleting funds in the bill.

The House Republican leader was critical of the Teacher Corps plan, which he described as amounting to "federal control" resulting in local schools being forced to change their instructional programs under strict rules dictated by Washington officials.

In his final newsletter to constituents this year, Ford also announced that two staff members of his Washington office will be in his Grand Rapids headquarters for a month and a half starting Nov. 1.

The office will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and until noon Saturday. Washington staffers will be in Grand Rapids through Dec. 17.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

For release
February 2, 1966

WASHINGTON--- A White House proposal to double the length of terms for House members was swatted today by Congressman Gerald R. Ford as a plan that would beef-up the Executive branch as a "one-man rule" type of federal government.

The House Republican leader said "we want our Congress to exercise independent judgment" predicting that a four-year term could lead in the opposite direction.

Thumping in favor of the present term system, Ford said "every two years is not too often for a Congressman to put his record on the line and seek the endorsement of those who elected him."

A two-year term, Ford said, helps "keep the Congressman close to his constituents."

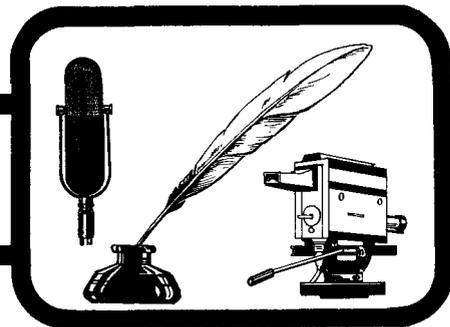
Taking a poke at President Johnson on another issue, Ford predicted Congressional approval of the Administration budget in its present form could lead to a national tax hike or "runaway inflation."

Riddling the Administration's proposed record budget with stinging criticism, Ford said, "I find it hard to understand how the President can ask business and labor to avoid price and wage increases which are measured in terms of millions of dollars when he is increasing non-defense spending by billions."

The Michigan Republican Congressman predicted the President's budget will be pared by the House Appropriations Committee.

Ford made his statements in a weekly letter to Fifth District constituents.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

For release Feb. 16, 1966

WASHINGTON----- President Johnson's hush-hush conduct of the Vietnam War and his failure to tighten economic pressure on the Communist enemy heartland of Hanoi fall short of serving the national interest, Congressman Gerald R. Ford said today.

Free world shipping to the enemy aggressor in North Vietnam "at a time when the United States is fighting to protect freedom" was blamed on the President by the House Republican leader.

Referring to reports of 119 free world ships "carrying goods to and from" the enemy last year, Ford accused the President of virtually hiding information from the American public.

The Administration's figures on the volume of shipping to North Vietnam "do not present the complete picture," Ford said, charging that cargo activity may be more than double the totals contained in a report on vessel movement.

"This situation emphasizes at least two significant truths," Ford said. "The American people are not being given the facts about Vietnam to which they are entitled and which in no way give aid and comfort to the enemy.

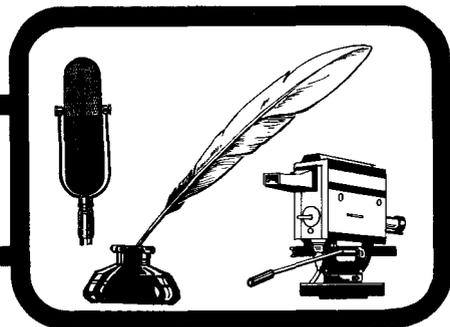
"Secondly, the Johnson Administration is not using every proper and available means for applying economic pressure on Hanoi."

Ford recalled that last year the President "objected strenuously" to a proposal that would have prohibited U.S. foreign aid from going to any country whose merchant ships trade with North Vietnam.

"I supported that restriction," Ford said, "and I continue to urge the President to use every means at his disposal to wage economic warfare against North Vietnam, including cutting supply routes, be they on land or sea."

Ford made his statements in a newsletter to Fifth District constituents.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

For release March 2, 1966

WASHINGTON--- "Why the rush?" in providing a \$750,000 executive mansion for Vice President Hubert Humphrey somewhere in Washington, Congressman Gerald R. Ford asked today.

The House Republican leader indicated he favors adequate housing for U.S. military personnel before Congress spends taxpayer's money for an "expensive new home" for the Vice President.

Reported to be a favored choice is a site at the Naval Observatory in northwest Washington. Sponsors of a bill being considered by a House Public Works subcommittee reportedly favor a "three-story, brick and stone structure, three-car garage, with grounds properly landscaped and fenced."

Ford, who said he hopes the proposal will die in committee, asserted that "some of our servicemen have been living in little more than barns, even in tents" while plans are being pushed to provide a Vice Presidential executive mansion.

Defense Secretary Robert McNamara figured in Ford's critical attack on the "house for HHH" plan.

The Michigan Congressman recalled that McNamara has refused to use funds already appropriated to furnish proper housing for service personnel.

In shelving the military housing appropriation, McNamara was quoted by Ford as claiming the spending "would add to inflation."

"If this is true, why the rush for an expensive new home for the Vice President?" Ford asked. He concluded, "This is one expenditure that can wait."

The Minority Leader's statements were included in his newsletter to Michigan Fifth District constituents.

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