The original documents are located in Box 24, folder "Schweiker, Richard" of the Michael Raoul-Duval Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

7/26/76

TO : Mike Duval

FROM: DAVE GERGEN

FYI



July 26, 1976

SOME BACKGROUND ON SENATOR RICHARD SCHWEIKER

Senator Richard Schweiker is known in Pennsylvania as a maverick. Former Democratic Senator from Pennsylvania, Joseph Clark, says of Schweiker, the Republican who beat him:

"It's a mutual admiration society. I think Dick's doing a great job. I couldn't have lost to a better guy. (He is) a first-class senator -- courageous, liberal, understanding, and capable."

Those sound like strange sentiments coming from a defeated political opponent of the opposite political party. But there is much in Richard Schweiker's background and voting record to justify a Democrat feeling the way Clark does.

Schweiker was elected to Congress in 1960. In his early years in Congress, Schweiker supported Medicare, federal rent subsidies, a \$1.8 billion cut in defense spending (during Viet Nam). In addition, Schweiker refused to support Barry Goldwater when he ran for President in 1964.

When Schweiker ran for the Senate against Clark, he became the first GOP Senate candidate in the state's history to receive AFL-CIO endorsement. In the Senate, he opposed the ABM, called for a bombing halt in Viet Nam in 1967, voted for the McGovern-Hatfield "Amendment to End the War" in 1970. <u>He also voted to override</u> every single veto by President Nixon (14 in all).

More recently, in 1975, Schweiker had as high an ADA as any Republican in the Senate (89%), a rating almost as high as Walter Mondale's, as compared to Barry Goldwater's six. Moreover, Schweiker in 1975 was the only member of the United States Senate -- in either party -- to receive a perfect 100 rating from the AFL-CIO's COPE.

In 1974, Schweiker had an ADA rating of 78, a rating almost as high as those given to Percy and Mathias. His COPE rating of 80 was higher than that given to either Stevenson or Percy. Reagan's choice of Schweiker came as a surprise to many who remembered Reagan's pledge that he would never choose a liberal. On May 30, 1976, the Los Angeles Times said:

> Over scrambled eggs with California-based reporters, Mr. Reagan rejected the idea he might pick a liberal running mate to give the ticket ideological balance. "I never believed in the idea," he said, promising to pick a vice president in his own conservative mold.

Schweiker's decision to run with Reagan also came as a surprise. Until today, Schweiker had been a supporter of President Ford and had been a Pennsylvania delegate for the President.



SCHWEIKER SUMMARY VOTING RECORD FOR 1974-1975

1974

Busing. Schweiker voted for busing when he voted for a motion to table an amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act that would have banned busing in many instances. Also voting for: Stevenson, Javits, Brooke.

Death Penalty. Schweiker voted against an attempt by the Congress to reimpose the death sentence for certain federal crimes following the Supreme Court rulings. Joining him: Stevenson, Javits, and Brooke.

Government Abortion Aid. Schweiker voted for abortion when he voted for a motion to kill an amendment which would bar use of Medicaid funds except in limited circumstances. Joining him: Stevenson, Javits, and Brooke.

Military Aid to Turkey. Schweiker voted against resumption of military aid to Turkey. Joining him: Stevenson, Javits, and Brooke.

Consumer Protection Agency. Schweiker voted for the Consumer Protection Agency when he voted to invoke the cloture on the Consumer Protection Agency filibuster.

Food Stamps for Strikers. Schweiker voted for Food Stamps for Strikers when he voted against an amendment which would have prohibited the use of food stamp funds in this fashion.

1975

Schweiker Vote

Federal Debt limit extension to \$531 billion	
from \$495 billion. Ye	S
Increased Agricultural Subsidies Ye	S
\$6 Billion Emerg. Jobs Bill Ye	S
Oil Price Ceilings Ye	S
Extended Wage/Price Council Authority Ye	S
Agency for Consumer Advocacy Ye	S
Symington Defense Budget Cut Ye	S
\$2B Health Services Package Ye	S
\$2B Public Works Emplymt. Ye	S
Aid to Turkey N	0
Dole Amendment on Busing (To Table) Ye	S
Natural Gas Deregulation (New) (Table) Ye	S
Oil Company Divestiture (Abourezk) Ye	S
Oil Company Related Holdings Ban (Kennedy) Ye	S
Bartlett Amendment/Ban Medicaid Abortion	o (Table)

Mike Doval

IMPORTANT NOTE: CORRECTIONS TO SCHWEIKER BACKGROUND MATERIAL

- 1. Three of the 1974 votes are incorrect. The votes should have been as follows:
 - A. Busing : Against
 - B. Death Penalty: For
 - C. Government Abortion Aid: Against
- In addition, I have been informed that Schweiker received AFL-CIO endorsement in 1974 in his race against Flaherty, not in 1968.

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