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Bovernow-elect

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN .....

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

PIERRE S. DU PONT, IV At Large Delaware

,4

November 12, 1976

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford President of the United States The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your letter of congratulations on my election as Governor in Delaware. Elise and I are very pleased with the outcome and look forward to the challenge that lies ahead. I appreciate the assistance that you gave us not only during the election but in the years in which I was in the House of Representatives.

I must say that I will not ever forget the contribution that you have made to your party and your country. I remember so well showing up as a new freshman Congressman in December of 1970 and all the assistance that you were in helping me understand the House of Representatives and the legislative process. I don't know how you ever had the stamina to deal with those hordes of idealistic, newly-elected members every other year but you did a magnificent job for all of us.

I enjoyed our association while you were Vice President and President. I must say that the great sadness to come out of last Tuesday evening was the fact that you were not successful in your election. I am somewhat embarrassed that we were unable to carry Delaware for you and I can only say that the reason must lie in the general Democrat trend that we experienced except for Bill Roth and myself and Tom Evans, our new Congressman. At the top of the ticket, the state went straight Democrat



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but at the lower levels and down at the grass roots, we really took a pounding. It's not clear how it happened, but it did, and we're going to have to improve it in 1978.

I am very concerned about the future of the Republican Party and if there is any way that I can be of any help to you in rebuilding our party, I hope you'll call on me. In the meantime, my very best wishes for the future and if there is anyway in which I can be of assistance, please call on me.

Sincerely yours,

PSduP/ab

