The original documents are located in Box C4, folder "Steiger, William A." of the Gerald and Betty Ford Special Materials Collection at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

WILLIAM A. STEIGER SIXTH DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

November 23, 1976

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

Honorable Gerald R. Ford The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

While I recognize that words do not suffice nor do thoughts make the outcome any different. Still, I do want you to know how tremendously proud I am of your service as President of the United States.

History will record, I have no doubt, that Gerald Ford was a uniquely qualified and equipped man to take over the office at the time that you did and to lead this country out from the morass and on to a far more even keel.

All of the tributes now being paid to you come a day late and a dollar short insofar as the proper recognition of your presidency is concerned. But it can not be surprising to any of us that it would be an uphill fight for the election. Eight years of Republican Presidents, Watergate, Vietnam, inflation, deficits and the economy all made the campaign that much more difficult.

The fact that you came as close as you did is a tribute to you and your presidency, as well as to the perceived weaknesses of Mr. Carter. Janie and

L.

THISE HOUSE THAIL ROOM

Honorable Gerald M. Ford The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

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Billy join in sending our very, very best wishes to you and your family, as well as our thanks to you for a job well done. I look forward to continuing to work with you, and I trust that the Republican Party will be able to use you and have your leadership now and in the future. Thanks so much for all that you've done and special thanks for your kindness to the Steigers.

Best personal regards

Sincerely yours

William A. Steiger Member of Congress

WAS:mm

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