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436 CANNON BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 (202) 225-4215 Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Mashington, D.C. 20515

November 19, 1976



The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Let me take this opportunity to acknowledge your most thoughtful letter to me on the occasion of my reelection earlier this month. My pleasure in winning, however, was overshadowed by the Nation's loss in not having you as its leader for the next four years. It's some comfort to me that we carried Virginia for you, but that is a very small satisfaction.

I have known you now for eight years, since I first came to the House as a freshman in the 91st Congress. It was a high honor to serve under you when you were my Minority Leader and later when you were my President. I would not flatter you, but I must say that I have met few people in my life with your sense of decency and fair play, and who was so unassuming when given high office. You did indeed restore confidence in the White House, and I could not have been more proud to carry your flag.

Janie and I take this occasion to wish you and Mrs. Ford a joyful and healthy retirement from public responsibility, but I hope that your counsel will always be available so that the Republic can have the benefit of the wisdom of the best of its leadership.

Sincerely,

G. WILLIAM WHITEHURST

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Congress of the United States

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