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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 28, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MAX FRIEDERSDORF

FROM:

JIM CONNOR 

SUBJECT:

Congressman Barber Conable (R-N. Y.)

Your memorandum of June 27th attaching Barber Conable's letter of June 18th has been reviewed by the President. The following comment was made:

"Why don't I have a "one-on-one" meeting with Barber Conable?"

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Don Rumsfeld

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Max F)

Why don't I
have a 1 on 1 meeting
with Barber C.?

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 27, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF *M.G.*

SUBJECT: Congressman Barber Conable (R-N.Y.)

I am sending along a letter to you from Barber Conable concerning the political situation in New York.

I have acknowledged this letter but because of Barber's leadership role and the political sensitivity of the letter's contents, I wanted to bring it to your personal attention.

BARBER B. CONABLE, JR.
NEW YORK, 39TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
WAYS AND MEANS
BUDGET

JOINT COMMITTEE ON
INTERNAL REVENUE TAXATION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

6-23
WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2228 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

DISTRICT OFFICE:
311 FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING
100 STATE STREET
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14614

June 18, 1975

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

MF
Dear Mr. President:

This will confirm some oral comments I made at the "political" supper I attended at the White House several weeks ago. I continue to be concerned about possible damage to your position in New York as a fallout from Senator Buckley's difficulties there.

I consider it imperative that you and Senator Buckley have an accommodation of some sort sooner rather than later. His failure to support your candidacy unequivocally has created a bad reaction in New York State and has given ammunition to those in the Republican Party organization who want to deny him the Republican nomination. The result of such a denial could be serious for your own candidacy in the State and could result in challenges to many delegates whom the regular Party organization will want to commit to you. Mr. Buckley's constituency is still largely the Conservative Party, a Party organized in reaction to what it deemed to be the liberal State policies of Nelson Rockefeller and the liberalism of Jacob Javits. While the Conservative Party has strong ideological ties in many areas to conservative Republicans, it is quite capable of organizing a spoiler's role if its champion, James Buckley, is denied a serious chance for reelection by New York Republican Party leaders.

It seems to me that you are the only one who has a good chance of resolving this issue, and that it probably will have to be resolved through direct discussions between you and Mr. Buckley. If he comes out strongly for you and, in return, you urge Republican Party leaders to back him, a strong possibility of deviation by our Party's right wing in our State, fueled by Conservative Party disgruntlement, can be avoided. I hope you will take this difficulty

WHITE HOUSE
MAIL ROOM

1975 JUN 21 AM 8 25

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20545

INTERNAL REVENUE TAXATION
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
BUDGET
WAYS AND MEANS
COMMITTEE

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

Dear Mr. President:

This will continue some oral comments I made at the political supper I attended at the White House several weeks ago. I continue to be concerned about possible changes to your position in New York as a fallout from Senator Buckley's difficulties there.

I consider it imperative that you and Senator Buckley have an accommodation of some sort sooner rather than later. His failure to support your candidacy unconditionally has created a bad reaction in New York State and has given ammunition to those in the Republican Party organization who want to deny him the Republican nomination. The result of such a denial could be serious for your own campaign in the State and could result in challenges to many delegates whom the Republican Party organization will want to commit to you. Mr. Buckley's constituency is still largely the Conservative Party. A Party organized in reaction to what is deemed to be the liberal State policies of Nelson Rockefeller and the liberalism of Jacob Javits. While the Conservative Party has strong ideological ties to many areas of conservative Republicanism, it is quite capable of organizing a spoiler's role if its champion, James Buckley, is denied a serious chance for reelection by New York Republican Party leaders.

It seems to me that you are the only one who has a good chance of resolving this issue, and that it probably will have to be resolved through direct discussions between you and Mr. Buckley. If he comes out erroneously for you and, in return, you urge Republican Party leaders to back him, a strong possibility of devastation by our Party's main wing in our State, fueled by Conservative Party disagreement, can be avoided. I hope you will take this difficulty

Honorable Gerald R. Ford
June 18, 1975
Page 2

seriously, because I am by no means convinced that Senator Buckley's friends will behave rationally or constructively if major Party nomination is denied him. I like Jim Buckley, but I am more interested in seeing you reelected, if circumstances require a choice.

Sincerely yours,

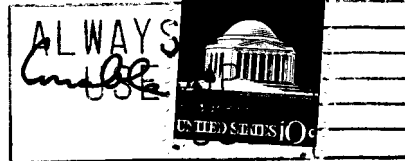


Barber B. Conable, Jr.

C/1

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



M.C.

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