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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 9, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM FIELD

FROM:

JIM CONNOR *JEC*

The attached proposed Presidential letter to Ray A. Barnhart was returned in the President's outbox with the following notation:

"This is Ray Barnhart, Reagan Chairman in Texas.

I believe there is a better substantive answer that will be better received.

Have it rewritten and Bill Usery has some answers."

Please prepare a new response and return to this office for signature.

cc: Dick Cheney
Betty Nolan

Attachment:

Proposed letter to Mr. Barnhart dated 9/7/76

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dick Cheney

This is Ray Barhart,
Rayon ch. in Texas.
I believe there is
a better substantive answer
that will be better
received.

Have it rewritten
& Bill Young has
some answers.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 7, 1976

Dear Mr. Barnhart:

I have your telegram of August 24 and I thank you for your support.

Our record over the past two years is a positive one. Under Republican leadership, our Nation has made steady progress toward prosperity, peace and public trust.

Our challenge is to build on this record of achievement. I will need the full cooperation of all my fellow Republicans to insure success in November. I welcome your interest and encouragement and I look forward to working with you in the weeks ahead.

With best wishes,

Mr. Ray A. Barnhart
Chairman
Harris County Republican Party
Suite 200
2626 Westheimer at Kirby
Houston, Texas 77006



chs 2a

HARRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

August 4, 1975

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

Dear Mr. President:

This letter is to express my very grave concern regarding W. J. Usery, Jr.'s outspoken support for extending collective bargaining procedures to government employees

As your director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, Mr. Usery's position, as amplified in his address on May 16, 1975, to the Utah Federal Employees, is totally untenable, destroying any facade of objectivity in his role as mediator. I stated to him in my letter of August 1, 1975, a copy of which is attached.

Additionally, by actively promoting the unionization of government employees (notwithstanding the semantics of "collective bargaining", unionization is the accurate term) he is attempting to establish a national policy supportive of that end, rather than to implement a policy as determined by you and your Administration. The significant question is whether Mr. Usery's actions and pronouncements reflect your policy? I feel confident they do not, inasmuch as they are inconsistent with the philosophy expressed in our Republican Party. If my assumption is correct, I strongly urge you to remove Mr. Usery from office at the earliest possible time.

In commenting on the settlement of the postal workers' contract, Mr. Usery is quoted as saying that it was "...a victory for collective bargaining, a victory for the postal unions, and a victory for the postal service". This impartial mediator and conciliator seems gratified over a possible 30% increase in postal cost, an added 900 million-dollar additional operating cost, not including the incalculable cost-of-living adjustments estimated to be a minimum of 780 millions, and at the same time, oblivious to the miserable record of the postal service which already is experiencing an 850 million dollar deficit. Victory? Whatever happened to the interests of John Q. Public, for whom Mr. Usery is supposedly working?

Mr. President, this gentleman, sincere as he may be, is doing you and your Administration, our Party and our nation, a tremendous disservice. There seems to me but one recourse in meeting this problem, and I most sincerely recommend your taking that course: termination.

Very truly yours,
Ray Barnhart
Ray A. Barnhart, Chairman

Enclosure

Copy to: Senator John G. Tower
Representative Wm. R. Archer
Representative James M. Collins

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 15, 1976

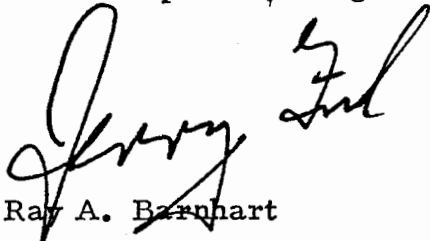
Dear Ray:

Thank you for your telegram of August 24 concerning the Party Platform recently adopted in Kansas City.

I support the Republican Party Platform and will be proud to run on it. As I said recently in a press conference at the White House, our record over the past two years is a positive one. Under Republican leadership, our Nation has made steady progress toward prosperity, peace and public trust. Our challenge is to build on this record of achievement.

I look forward to working with you, other members of the Texas leadership, and rank and file Texas Republicans to insure that November 2 is a banner day for Republicans from the courthouse to the White House. I hope to see you in Texas in the near future.

With warmest personal regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerry Ford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name of the recipient.

Mr. Ray A. Barnhart
Chairman
Harris County Republican Party
Suite 200
2626 Westheimer at Kirby
Houston, Texas 77006