The original documents are located in Box D8, folder "Ford Press Releases - Insurance for Servicemen, 1965" of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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## CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER



## FOR RELEASE September 1, 1965

WASHINGTON--- Insurance without cost for American servicemen in Viet Nam is getting a powerful push by Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Michigan.

In a weekly news letter to his Fifth District, Ford called on Congress to "act promptly" in providing \$10,000 indemnity insurance protection for combat troops.

Ford cited Presidential opposition to the insurance proposal asking Congress to "ignore" White House objections by promptly enacting the law.

Discussing the new immigration bill, Ford said he voted in favor of final passage. However, Ford said he is "disappointed" that a GOP provision limiting immigration from the Western Hemisphere was batted down by the Democrat majority.

"We think it is discriminatory to limit immigration from countries of Europe, Asia and Africa while leaving the gates open for Latin America," Ford said in explaining the Republican provision that was defeated in the House of Representatives.

Turning to the Presidential veto of the military construction bill, Ford said the White House "has taken another step to show Congress who is boss."

The House Republican Leader also said it is "ironical" to hear the President complain about the "cumulative erosion of the executive power by legislation."

The veto, Ford said, was prompted by an "extremely mild restriction" on executive authority to close military installations.

"Many authorities will agree that President Johnson's constitutional argument was extremely weak," Ford said. "But there is no question about his determination to run the show and put the Congress in its place."

The Fifth District Congressman announced a Labor Day visit to Kent and Ionia Counties. He is to take part in Belding and Comstock Park ceremonies. Ford plans to attend the annual Rodeo at Sparta the same day.

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