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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *af*

FILM CLIP

MARTIN LUTHER KING'S BIRTHDAY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1975

ON THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF DOCTOR  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JUNIOR, IT IS APPROPRIATE TO REVIEW THE  
PROGRESS OF THIS NATION IN SECURING CIVIL RIGHTS FOR ALL OUR  
CITIZENS.

*It is impressive / if not perfect.  
record.*

MANY OF THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGES DOCTOR KING  
ENVISIONED AS A CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER ARE NOW TAKEN FOR GRANTED.  
BUT PROGRESS IS NOT COUNTED BY PAST SUCCESS; WE MUST  
CONTINUALLY RENEW OUR COMMITMENT TO THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE  
AND EQUALITY.

*was in the forefront in leading*

DOCTOR KING ~~HELPED LEAD~~ THE WAY TO PASSAGE OF THE VOTING

RIGHTS ACT OF 1965. I SUPPORTED THE ORIGINAL ACT AND ITS  
FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION IN 1970. THIS LAW HAS HELPED TO OPEN  
OUR POLITICAL PROCESSES TO FULL CITIZEN PARTICIPATION -- AND WE  
MUST SAFEGUARD THESE GAINS THROUGH ANOTHER FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION  
OF THE ACT.

*will*

I ~~HAVE DIRECTED THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO~~ FORWARD TO THE

CONGRESS LATER THIS WEEK DRAFT LEGISLATION FOR SUCH AN EXTENSION.

I BELIEVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE IS THE FOUNDATION OF FREEDOM AND

EQUALITY. IT MUST BE PROTECTED.

DURING HIS LIFETIME, DOCTOR KING RECEIVED THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE AND NUMEROUS OTHER AWARDS. BUT SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEATH SEVEN YEARS AGO, HE SAID HE PREFERRED TO BE REMEMBERED NOT FOR THOSE HONORS, BUT FOR SERVICE TO HIS FELLOW MAN.

DOCTOR KING IS REMEMBERED AS HE WISHED -- AND HIS MEMORY CONTINUES TO INSPIRE HOPE FOR AMERICA. WE MUST NOT LET HIS WORK DIE -- THAT WILL BE OUR HIGHEST TRIBUTE OF  
ALL.

END OF TEXT