# The original documents are located in Box 5, folder "2/7/75 - U.S. Senate Youth Program" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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#### TALKING POINTS - U.S. SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

#### BACKGROUND

This is the 13th annual Senate Youth Program, sponsored by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation in cooperation with the U.S. Senate. It brings to Washington two outstanding high school students from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

- 1. All of you are elected student leaders, and this program gives you a closeup look at the workings of the Federal Government. Last year, as Vice President, I sponsored the two representatives of the District of Columbia, and I know what a fine program this is.
- I am happy to meet with you today, because I believe it is important for public officials to talk with groups like this one about the concerns and interests of American young people.

- 3. As elected student leaders, you already have experience with the political process and the task of self-government. I hope your experiences in Washington and at home have deepened your interest in government and that you will continue to be interested in the different governments that affect your lives.
- 4. In recent years, young people have become more concerned than ever about government, and I hope that this trend will continue.

  The essence of democracy is the involvement of citizens.

  The more Americans who participate in the political process the better government will become.
- 5. There are many areas of public service where your talents will be needed. Government is problem solving, whether on the local or national level.

- 6. As informed young people, I am sure you are aware of the
  economic and energy problems facing our nation. Your help
  will be needed to solve these problems, because our current
  difficulties affect the lives of all Americans. Restoring the
  economic health of the country will require sacrifices from
  all of us.
- 7. Some of you may return to Washington as elected officials or government workers, but all of you can serve your community, state or nation by participating in government as informed and aware voters.
- 8. It is not only tomorrow that belongs to you as the nation's young people, but today. Your talents and energies are needed and I hope you will use them to make your school and community better.

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 6, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

PAUL THEIS

SUBJECT:

Talking Points for your Meeting with the Senate Youth Group

Attached are suggested talking points to use at your 10:00 Friday meeting with the Senate Youth Group.

Attachment

## CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

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