

**The original documents are located in Box 11, “7/8/75 - Announcement of Presidential Candidacy” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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**THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRESIDENTIAL**

**CANDIDACY**

**TUESDAY, JULY 8, 1975**

TODAY, I AM ~~FORWARDING~~ OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCING  
THAT I AM A CANDIDATE FOR THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION FOR  
PRESIDENT IN 1976.

I DO THIS WITH THE STRONG SUPPORT OF

MY FAMILY AND MY FRIENDS. MY CAMPAIGN WILL BE

CONDUCTED BY OUTSTANDING AMERICANS ON WHOSE

INTEGRITY BOTH MY SUPPORTERS AND ~~MY OPPONENTS~~ **ALL OTHERS**

CAN DEPEND; I HAVE FOUND THOSE LEADERS IN BO CALLAWAY

OF GEORGIA, DAVE PACKARD OF CALIFORNIA,

BOB MOOT, DEAN BURCH AND MANY OTHERS FROM

EVERY STATE AND EVERY WALK OF LIFE WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED

TO HELP.

I HAVE GIVEN THEM AUTHORITY TO SEEK MY  
NOMINATION WITH THREE QUALIFICATIONS, WHICH I WANT ALL  
AMERICANS TO KNOW.

FIRST, I INTEND TO CONDUCT AN OPEN AND  
ABOVE-BOARD CAMPAIGN, BOTH FOR THE NOMINATION AND ~~LATER~~  
FOR THE PRESIDENCY. I WANT EVERY DELEGATE AND EVERY  
VOTE I CAN GET, *That can* ~~BUT NONE THAT CANNOT~~ BE WON TO MY CAUSE  
WITHIN THE SPIRIT AND THE LETTER OF THE ~~NEW ELECTION~~ LAW AND  
WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH I HAVE  
STOOD ALL OF MY PUBLIC LIFE.

SECOND, I WILL NOT BECOME ~~SO PARTISAN~~

INITIAL

~~TO~~ FORGET MY ~~FIRST~~ PLEDGE TO BE PRESIDENT OF ALL

THE PEOPLE. I BELIEVE I CAN BEST REPRESENT ~~UNITE~~ MY PARTY

BUT THIS WILL BE FUTILE UNLESS I UNITE THE MAJORITY

OF AMERICANS WHO ACKNOWLEDGE NO ABSOLUTE

PARTY LOYALTY.

THEREFORE, I WILL SEEK THE SUPPORT OF ALL WHO BELIEVE  
IN THE FUNDAMENTAL VALUES OF DUTY, DECENCY AND  
CONSTRUCTIVE DEBATE ON THE GREAT ISSUES ~~WHICH~~ WE FACE  
TOGETHER AS FREE PEOPLE.

THIRD, I AM DETERMINED NEVER TO NEGLECT  
MY FIRST DUTY AS PRESIDENT. AFTER ELEVEN MONTHS  
IN THIS OFFICE, I KNOW FULL WELL THAT THE  
OBLIGATIONS OF THE PRESIDENCY REQUIRE MOST OF THE  
STAMINA AND CONCENTRATION ONE HUMAN BEING CAN MUSTER.  
BUT IT IS ALSO <sup>THE</sup> <sup>OF</sup> ~~A~~ DUTY ~~FOR~~ ALL AMERICANS TO  
PARTICIPATE FULLY IN OUR FREE ELECTIVE PROCESS,  
AND I WILL DO SO ENTHUSIASTICALLY.



IN ALL THE THIRTEEN ELECTION CAMPAIGNS I HAVE  
UNDERTAKEN, MY BASIC CONVICTION HAS BEEN THAT THE BEST

POLITICS IS ALWAYS TO DO THE BEST JOB I CAN FOR ALL ~~THE~~ <sup>THE</sup>  
PEOPLE.

~~THE~~ I SEE NO REASON TO CHANGE THAT SUCCESSFUL

PHILOSOPHY. ~~THE~~ I EXPECT

TO WORK HARD, CAMPAIGN FORTHRIGHTLY AND DO THE VERY

BEST I CAN FOR AMERICA, IN ORDER TO FINISH  
THE JOB I HAVE BEGUN.

END OF TEXT

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SECOND, I WILL NOT BECOME SO PARTISAN AS TO FORGET MY FIRST INITIAL PLEDGE TO BE PRESIDENT OF ALL THE PEOPLE. I BELIEVE I CAN BEST REPRESENT MY PARTY, BUT THIS WILL BE FUTILE UNLESS I UNITE THE MAJORITY OF AMERICANS WHO ACKNOWLEDGE NO ABSOLUTE PARTY LOYALTY.

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SUCCESSFUL PHILOSOPHY. I EXPECT TO WORK HARD,  
CAMPAIGN FORTHRIGHTLY AND DO THE VERY BEST I CAN FOR  
AMERICA IN ORDER TO FINISH THE JOB I HAVE BEGUN.

END OF TEXT