The original documents are located in Box 13, “8/6/75 - Statement on Signing of Voting Rights Bill” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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STATEMENT ON SIGNING OF VOTING RIGHTS BILL

AUGUST 6, 1975
STATEMENT UPON

SIGNING OF VOTING RIGHTS BILL

AUGUST 6, 1975

THE RIGHT TO VOTE IS AT THE VERY FOUNDATION OF OUR AMERICAN SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT -- AND NOTHING MUST INTERFERE WITH THIS PRECIOUS RIGHT.
TODAY IS THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING

BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965,

WHICH I SUPPORTED. IN THE PAST DECADE, THE VOTING

RIGHTS OF MILLIONS OF AMERICANS HAVE BEEN PROTECTED AND

OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED

IMMEASURABLY.
THE BILL I AM SIGNING TODAY EXTENDS THE TEMPORARY

PROVISIONS OF THE ACT FOR SEVEN MORE YEARS AND BROADENS

THESE PROVISIONS TO BAR DISCRIMINATION AGAINST

SPANISH-SPEAKING AMERICANS, AMERICAN INDIANS,

ALASKAN NATIVES AND ASIAN-AMERICANS.
FURTHER, THIS BILL WILL PERMIT PRIVATE CITIZENS, AS WELL AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, TO INITIATE SUITS TO PROTECT THE VOTING RIGHTS OF CITIZENS IN ANY STATE WHERE DISCRIMINATION OCCURS.
THERE MUST BE NO QUESTION ABOUT THE RIGHT OF EACH ELIGIBLE CITIZEN TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR ELECTIVE PROCESS. THE EXTENSION OF THIS ACT WILL HELP TO ENSURE THAT RIGHT.

END OF TEXT
Dorothy -

Since the President gave Barbara Jordan the original -- would you like to have this copy?

Trudy
STATEMENT UPON

SIGNING OF VOTING RIGHTS BILL

AUGUST 6, 1975
I AM PLEASED TODAY TO SIGN H.R. 6219, WHICH EXTENDS

THE RIGHT TO VOTE IS AT THE VERY FOUNDATION OF OUR AMERICAN
SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT -- AND NOTHING MUST INTERFERE WITH THIS
PRECIOUS RIGHT.
TODAY IS THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING

BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965,

WHICH I SUPPORTED. IN THE PAST DECADE, THE VOTING

RIGHTS OF MILLIONS OF AMERICANS HAVE BEEN PROTECTED AND

OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED

IMMEASURABLY.
THE BILL I AM SIGNING TODAY EXTENDS THE TEMPORARY PROVISIONS OF THE ACT FOR SEVEN MORE YEARS AND BROADENS THESE PROVISIONS TO BAR DISCRIMINATION AGAINST SPANISH-SPEAKING AMERICANS, AMERICAN INDIANS, ALASKAN NATIVES AND ASIAN-AMERICANS.
FURTHER, THIS BILL WILL PERMIT PRIVATE CITIZENS, AS WELL AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, TO INITIATE SUITS TO PROTECT THE VOTING RIGHTS OF CITIZENS IN ANY STATE WHERE DISCRIMINATION OCCURS.
THERE MUST BE NO QUESTION ABOUT THE RIGHT OF EACH ELIGIBLE CITIZEN TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR ELECTIVE PROCESS. THE EXTENSION OF THIS ACT WILL HELP TO ENSURE THAT RIGHT.

END OF TEXT