The original documents are located in Box 14, “8/29/75 - Labor Day Taped Message” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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LABOR DAY TAPE MESSAGE

AUGUST 29, 1975
THE GREATNESS OF AMERICA IS A REFLECTION OF THE
STRENGTH, CHARACTER AND THE WILL OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

WITHOUT THE DEDICATION OF MILLIONS OF MEN AND WOMEN WILLING
TO ROLL UP THEIR SLEEVES AND GO TO WORK, THE AMERICAN
DREAM WOULD REMAIN ONLY THAT -- A DREAM.
WITH THAT DEDICATION AND HARD WORK, AMERICA HAS

DEVELOPED OVER THE LAST 200 YEARS INTO NOT ONLY THE MOST

PROSPEROUS OF NATIONS, BUT AN ENDURING EXAMPLE OF THE

DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND SPIRIT.
YET, LABOR DAY IS NO HOLIDAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE OUT OF WORK THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN. LET US THIS YEAR GIVE LABOR DAY SPECIAL MEANING BY CONSIDERING NOT ONLY THE WORKING PEOPLE BUT THE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WHO ARE LOOKING FOR WORK.
I PLEDGE TO DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO GENERATE

NEW AND DECENT JOBS. WHEN FIGURES ARE PUBLISHED ON

THE LOSS OF JOBS, SOME OF THE LOSSES ARE NOT ANNOUNCED.

THESE TROUBLE ME DEEPLY.
I REFER TO THE **LOSS** OF HOPE AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE SEEKING THEIR FIRST JOB, THE **LOSS** OF SELF-ESTEEM AMONG FAMILY PEOPLE WHO ARE LAID OFF, THE **LOSS** OF SECURITY THAT PEOPLE WORKED FOR YEARS TO ACHIEVE, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE **LOSS** OF FAITH IN AMERICA’S FUTURE. THESE ARE TRAGIC LOSSES WHICH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CANNOT ENDURE.
ONE ENCOURAGING FACTOR ON THIS LABOR DAY

IS THAT THERE ARE MORE THAN 85 MILLION AMERICANS AT WORK.

THAT IS 1.2 MILLION MORE THAN SIX MONTHS AGO.

WE EXPECT THIS TREND TO CONTINUE.
LET GOVERNMENT, LABOR, AND BUSINESS TODAY
UNITE TO HASTEN THE MOMENT WHEN ENOUGH NEW JOBS ARE CREATED,
ON A SOUND ECONOMIC BASE, TO MAKE EVERY DAY "LABOR DAY"
WITH ALL ITS REWARDS.
AS AMERICA ENTERS ITS THIRD CENTURY, LET US PAY

TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO HAVE MADE OUR SYSTEM WORK --

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF AMERICAN LABOR, ORGANIZED AND

UNORGANIZED. ON THIS LABOR DAY, 1975, LET US RENEW

OUR DEDICATION TO MAKING SURE THAT THERE ARE JOBS

AVAILABLE FOR ALL AMERICANS WHO WANT TO WORK.

END OF TEXT
CLEARANCE FORM FOR RESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT

VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN

FROM: PAUL A. THEIS

SUBJECT: Taped message for Labor Day

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE:
2 p.m., Friday, August 29, The White House

SPEECHWRITER: Morrow

EDITED BY: Theis

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