

The original documents are located in Box 26, “3/23/76 - Remarks Upon the Signing of Anti-Discriminatory Amendments to the Consumer Credit Protection Act, and the Signing of the Consumer Leasing Act of 1976” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SIGNED

SIGNING STATEMENT:

EQUAL CREDIT AND CONSUMER LEASING LEGISLATION

THE ROSE GARDEN

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 1976

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN ~~.....~~

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT DAY FOR ALL AMERICAN CONSUMERS --

OF EVERY PERSUASION, OF EVERY RACE, OF ALL AGES.

IT IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE, WITH MY SIGNING
OF THE TWO BILLS BEFORE ME, THIS ADMINISTRATION RECONFIRMS
ITS COMMITMENT TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. IT ALSO UNDERSCORES
OUR DESIRE TO MAKE GOVERNMENT MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS
OF THE AMERICAN CONSUMER.

*I greatly appreciate the
cooperation of the Congress*

THE EQUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITY AMENDMENTS AND

THE CONSUMER LEASING ACT REFLECT OUR DETERMINATION TO ACHIEVE

GOALS OF FAIRNESS AND EQUALITY IN A BROAD RANGE

OF BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS - TRANSACTIONS WHICH MILLIONS

OF AMERICAN CONSUMERS ENGAGE IN EVERY DAY.

LAST NOVEMBER, I SPOKE OUT / DEPLORING DISCRIMINATION

AGAINST AMERICANS THAT MIGHT ARISE FROM FOREIGN BOYCOTT

PRACTICES.

AT THAT TIME, I ALSO VOICED MY FIRM SUPPORT

FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSUMER CREDIT PROTECTION ACT

WHICH WOULD BAR SUCH DISCRIMINATION.

THE CONSUMER CREDIT PROTECTION ACT, ALREADY
ON THE BOOKS, PROHIBITS CREDIT DISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEX
OR MARITAL STATUS. THE AMENDMENTS I AM SIGNING TODAY
BROADEN THE ACT TO PROHIBIT CREDIT DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS
OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN AND AGE.

THE OTHER BILL I AM SIGNING TODAY - THE CONSUMER

LEASING ACT OF 1976 -- ALSO BROADENS CONSUMER PROTECTION.

IT AMENDS THE 1968 TRUTH IN LENDING ACT / TO EXTEND

TO LEASE CONTRACTS THE DISCLOSURE AND PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

NOW IMPOSED ON CREDIT TRANSACTIONS.

WITH THE RISE OF CONSUMER LEASING OF AUTOMOBILES

AND OTHER EQUIPMENT, AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO INSTALLMENT BUYING,

THIS MEASURE MEETS A VERY REAL NEED•

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE ABLE TO SIGN BOTH THESE BILLS

2 congratulate the Members of Congress who worked with us - Democrat + Republic

1 TODAY. *The bills* ~~THEY~~ ADD TO A GROWING LIST OF STEPS WE HAVE TAKEN

IN THE LAST YEAR TO HELP GIVE ALL CONSUMERS A FAIRER SHAKE

TO MAKE OUR COUNTRY A MORE EQUITABLE, A MORE JUST PLACE

TO LIVE FOR ALL AMERICANS.

END OF TEXT