

The original documents are located in Box 28, “4/8/76 - Signing Ceremony for Summer Youth Programs” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SUMMER YOUGH PROGRAMS
MESSAGE SIGNING CEREMONY

4/8/76

GOVERNOR RAY

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

SECRETARY USERY

CHAIRMAN HAMPTON

DISTINGUISHED MAYORS AND COUNTY OFFICIALS

-|-

WE HAVE ALL BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE STEADY
IMPROVEMENT SHOWN IN THE ECONOMY IN THE LAST SEVERAL
MONTHS. THE SECRETARY OF LABOR ADVISES ME THAT THE
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SITUATION HAS ALSO SHOWN SIGNS OF
IMPROVING.

NEVERTHELESS, WITH THE ADVENT OF SUMMER
VACATIONS, IT IS CLEAR THAT MORE YOUNG PEOPLE WILL BE
SEEKING JOBS THAN THE PRIVATE SECTOR WILL BE ABLE TO
PROVIDE •

I AM, THEREFORE, FORMALLY TRANSMITTING
TO THE CONGRESS TODAY AN URGENT SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST
THAT WOULD PROVIDE 528 MILLION DOLLARS TO SUPPORT JOBS
FOR OVER 888 THOUSAND DISADVANTAGED YOUTH THIS SUMMER•

IF THE CONGRESS WILL ACT PROMPTLY ON MY
REQUEST, LOCAL C.E.T.A. SPONSORS WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE
MEANINGFUL WORK AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR
SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF YOUNG PEOPLE ●

I AM ALSO SENDING A MEMORANDUM TODAY TO
THE HEADS OF ALL FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES
CALLING UPON THEM TO COOPERATE TO THE FULLEST WITH THE
EFFORTS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE SUMMER
JOBS IN GOVERNMENT FOR AN ADDITIONAL 54,000 NEEDY YOUTH ●

FINALLY, ON A RELATED MATTER, LET ME AGAIN URGE
THE CONGRESS TO ACT ON MY REQUEST OF JANUARY
FOR 1.7 BILLION DOLLARS TO CONTINUE THE EXISTING PUBLIC SERVICE
EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM. MANY LOCAL PRIME SPONSORS OF C.E.T.A.
ARE RUNNING SHORT OF FUNDS AND WILL HAVE TO LAY PEOPLE OFF
IF THE CONGRESS DOES NOT ACT SOON.

WHATEVER DIFFERENCES OF OPINION MAY EXIST
ON THE JOB CREATION ISSUE, THERE IS NO REASON WHY LOCAL
OFFICIALS AND THOSE ALREADY EMPLOYED IN C.E.T.A. PUBLIC
SERVICE JOBS SHOULD BE KEPT IN SUSPENSE AND IN FEAR OF LAY OFFS.

I HOPE THE CONGRESS WILL ACT PROMPTLY
ON THESE IMPORTANT MATTERS AND I AM NOW PLEASED TO SIGN
THE TWO MESSAGES.

[END OF TEXT]