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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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]