

**The original documents are located in Box 36, “7/22/76 - Television Remarks Upon Signing Message to Congress Urging Action on Various Measures Prior to Adjournment” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . . .

TV STATEMENT FOR OMNIBUS MESSAGE

JULY 22, 1976

*have sense of*

I WANT TO EXPRESS MY GROWING CONCERN ~~TODAY~~ OVER

THE OUTLOOK FOR CONGRESSIONAL ACTION DURING THE REMAINDER

OF 1976.

TIME FOR ACTION IS RAPIDLY DWINDLING.

~~YEAR~~

*An*

ENORMOUS BACKLOG OF WORK IS PILING UP ON CONGRESSIONAL

DESKS.

IMPORTANT LAWS MUST ~~STILL~~ BE PASSED THIS YEAR

IN MANY AREAS:

-- TO CUT TAXES AND SPENDING;

-- TO EXPAND CATASTROPHIC HEALTH CARE PROTECTION;

- TO SET UP A NATIONAL SWINE FLU PROGRAM;
- TO LIMIT COURT-ORDERED SCHOOL BUSING;
- TO ATTACK CRIME AND DRUGS;
- AND TO ACCOMPLISH MANY OTHER IMPORTANT GOALS.

THIS AFTERNOON I AM SENDING TO THE CONGRESS A  
SPECIAL MESSAGE URGING PROMPT ACTION ON SEVENTY-FOUR  
DIFFERENT MEASURES THAT I HAVE PROPOSED AND ARE STILL  
AWAITING PASSAGE.

I AM ALSO DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT AT A TIME WHEN  
THE PUBLIC'S BUSINESS HAS BECOME SO PRESSING, SOME MEMBERS  
OF THE CONGRESS APPARENTLY WANT TO TURN THE REST OF THIS  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION INTO A POLITICAL TEST OF WILLS BETWEEN  
ONE PARTY IN THE CONGRESS AND ANOTHER PARTY IN THE  
WHITE HOUSE.

I DO NOT THINK THE NATION WILL BE WELL SERVED IF  
PARTISANSHIP IS PLACED AHEAD OF PUBLIC SERVICE DURING THE  
REST OF THIS LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

*people*  
THE COUNTRY EXPECTS ~~US TO HAVE~~ POLITICAL DIFFERENCES.

*people*  
THE COUNTRY EXPECTS A HIGH-LEVEL, SPIRITED POLITICAL CONTEST

IN THE FALL. *our people*  
BUT THE COUNTRY ALSO EXPECTS THAT THOSE WHO

HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF OCCUPYING PUBLIC OFFICES AND

COLLECTING PUBLIC SALARIES SHOULD RENDER A FULL MEASURE

OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

*There must be no holiday*

THERE MUST BE NO MORATORIUM ON GOOD GOVERNMENT

*on good government. I intend to meet*

IN WASHINGTON -- WHETHER THE FALL ELECTIONS ARE 100 DAYS

*that standard. I trust the Congress*

OR 10 DAYS AWAY. I INTEND TO MEET THAT STANDARD, AND

*will <sup>will</sup> do so.*

I TRUST THAT THE CONGRESS WILL TOO.

END OF TEXT