

Pool Report-SER Board, Quality Inn

July 17, 1975

President Ford said ~~when~~ asked if he backs the Voting Rights/^{law} extension to cover the Spanish Speaking that he is very much for this. He considers the law of maximum importance. He talked with senators about it yesterday and this morning. But he pointed out a problem that exists in the Senate (He did not say but presumably he is talking about the New Hampshire senate seat contest and the fact the Congress goes on vacation July 31 for a month) in view of the fact the Voting Rights law expires ~~in~~ Aug. 4.

Ford said there were several options concerning this law--one would be to pass it as is, one to extend it as the House voted and one would be to extend it to all 50 states and one would be to let it expire.

He suggests it might be simpler and more easily done to extend it to all 50 states.

He said he believes in every citizen having the right to vote.

(Note: A playback of the tape shows that Ford backed the Spanish Speaking amendment including seven SS populated states in addition to the six southern states --there was no backing away from the issue.)

Sarah McClendon