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October 24, 2003

The Honorable George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

As you know, we co-chaired the National Commission on Federal Election Reform and made various recommendations to help state and local governments improve their voting and registration systems. Many of these recommendations were included in the Help America Vote Act that you signed into law on October 29, 2002.

The Help America Vote Act requires states to accomplish several objectives on or before January 1, 2006. In the legislation, Congress promised to contribute toward the significant cost of accomplishing those objectives.

However, funding has not proceeded as quickly as the legislation provides, and the states have been placed in the difficult position of being required to meet the objectives in a shorter period and therefore need resources as soon as possible. We urge you to support full funding for the Help America Vote Act before the end of the year.

We appreciate your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Carter *Gerald R. Ford*