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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

June 30, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JEANNE HOLM

THR OUGH:

BILL BAROODY

FROM:

JIM CONNOR JEE

SUBJECT:

Equality of Rights Under Federal Statute

The President reviewed your memorandum of June 17 on the above subject and approved the following:

Option 1 - Initiate a review of federal statutes

The President signed the recommended letter to the Attorney General. The signed letter to the Attorney General is forwarded with a copy of this memorandum to Robert Linder for appropriate handling.

cc: Dick Cheney
Robert Linder

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

During the past few years, this Administration has committed substantial resources toward the elimination of unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex. The Department of Justice and other executive agencies have been vigorous in their enforcement of existing laws, and the Congress has acted to extend protections against sex discrimination through new and amended legislation. Although we have made significant progress toward the goal of non-discrimination, much remains to be done.

One of these remaining tasks is a systematic examination of all Federal laws and regulations to identify and revise those which result in inequitable benefits or treatment because of sex. As the chief law enforcement agency of the United States, the Justice Department should play a central role in this effort. Therefore, I am directing the Department to develop, in consultation with affected Federal agencies, a comprehensive plan for accomplishing a review of the United States Code to determine need for revision of sex-based provisions that are not justified in law or supported by wise policy.

I look forward to your proposals and prompt implementation of a plan that will enable us to submit proposed revisions to the Congress at the earliest practicable date.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Edward H. Levi

Levall R. Frod

The Attorney General Washington, D.C. 20530