



*Bush - Sep.
1. appropriations*

811 RUSK

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

November 25, 1966

Dear Gerry,

In reply to your letter of November 14th, and keeping in mind our 'phone conversation of Wednesday of this week, I am attaching a Request For Committee Assignment.

I put down, as you will see, a strong plea for Appropriations. I noticed that the Democrats did put a Freshman on this committee last year. I hope that I have not tried to "oversell" on this matter.

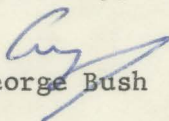
I know you are swamped with all kinds of grandiose requests - perhaps this ranks as the grandiosest of them all, but whatever you all decide will be fine with me; and I promise to work like hell to be a good member of whatever committee I get.

I did send a copy of this enclosure to Mel Laird since I received a letter from him. I will heed your advice and see that any words on my behalf are put in without any "pressure". I am anxious not to get off on the wrong foot in the House.

I have been delighted with your comments I have been reading in the papers. I hope we'll be able to be "for" a bunch of things in the 90th. It is so important, particularly coming from Texas, that we offer solutions to problems and that we dispel the image of Republicans as aginners.

Best regards.

Sincerely,


George Bush

The Honorable Gerald Ford
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.



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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

1740 HOUSTON CLUB BLDG.
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

Bush - Jeff
1. Ways & Means
2. Appropriations

December 6, 1966

RE: Committee Assignments

Dear Gerry,

Attached is the supplemental first choice letter which should be attached to the request previously submitted to your office.

I enjoyed our visit this morning.

Sincerely,

George Bush
George Bush
Congressman-Elect



The Honorable Gerald Ford
U. S. House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

1740 HOUSTON CLUB BLDG.
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002



AMENDED REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT - - - - -
GEORGE BUSH - M.C. - ELECT - 7TH DISTRICT - TEXAS

Recognizing the unusual political implications of the situation developing on Ways and Means as it affects Texas, I would like to amend my choices to include as a first choice, WAYS AND MEANS.

The Politics of it - It is likely that Texas will not be represented on the Democratic side of this Committee in the 90th Congress. Should this happen, there is tremendous mileage for the Republican Party in Texas, the President's home state, by putting a man on this important committee. It has long been said by the opposition in Texas that the only way to be effective is to be a Democrat.

Saving a seat for Texas on Ways and Means would bring great credit to our party. It would, in my opinion, help show that the best bet for the future in Texas lies with the GOP.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR IT -

I am an economics graduate (Phi Beta Kappa) of Yale.

I have been active in business for eighteen years. The company I founded and ran operated in domestic and foreign markets; built major equipment pre and post the 7% tax credit law.

I am vitally interested in the workings of this committee.

SUMMARY -

The importance attached to a Texas seat on Ways and Means by Texans would give our party maximum political advantage, and I do believe my business and educational background would make me a useful member of this committee.



1740 Houston Club Building
Houston, Texas 77002

REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT FROM GEORGE BUSH - 7TH DISTRICT
OF TEXAS

FIRST CHOICE - THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.

Recognizing that this is a difficult committee to be seated on as a freshman congressman, I would like to set out the following reasons why I hope this might be considered.

1. TEXAS AND HOUSTON POLITICS

Albert Thomas of Houston (8th District) held a seat on this committee for many years - it came to be thought of in these parts as Houston's seat on this important committee. When Mr. Thomas died, Bob Casey was appointed to this committee 'midst much comment in the Texas press that "Casey has saved this important seat for Houston and for Texas". Now it is possible that Casey will be removed from this committee due to the GOP gains. Should I be appointed to the committee under these circumstances, I am confident that the GOP would get tremendous great credit in the Texas press. This appointment would have all the more significance with Texas being the President's home state. The politics of all this is intriguing.

2. GOP IN THE SOUTH

I think a major assignment of this nature would do a lot to encourage qualified people to run in our party not only in Texas but in other southern states. An assignment of this nature could be construed as a major encouragement to people in our part of the country to get active in the political arena - that rapid progress can be made in our party, etc. There is no member of this committee from any Southern State.

3. BUSH QUALIFICATION FOR THIS COMMITTEE

I am a Phi Beta Kappa economics graduate of Yale University. I have founded and built and run a large publicly owned company in the offshore oil business. I believe this combination of eighteen years in business plus educational training would serve as a good background for this committee. I recognize the importance of this committee and I would be prepared to work hard and give my all to being a helpful committee member.

I am sure in considering such an assignment the leadership would want to know that the member would be able to win again. I carried my district by almost 58% against a strong opponent, a well known conservative Democrat this year.



In 1964, when I ran for the Senate, I carried this district by almost 57% against an incumbent liberal Democrat Senator. Recognizing that anyone can get clobbered, I think it is fair to say this is not an extremely marginal district.

4. CONCLUSION

I recognize that it would be most unusual to be placed on the Appropriations Committee as a Freshman, and let me clearly state I expect no special consideration of any kind; however, the political history of this committee as it relates to Texas (LBJ's home state) and to Houston through Mr. Casey and Mr. Thomas, make this a very special political situation. I hope I am not being presumptuous in calling these matters to your attention. Freshmen have been assigned to Appropriations in the past, and although it is most unusual, I am hopeful that the reasons outlined above will cause favorable action on this request. Let me reassure you that should this be impossible, I most certainly will understand.

SECOND CHOICES -

INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

My eighteen years experience in the oil industry and Texas' vital interest in oil and gas matters make this a committee which would have special appeal to me. I also feel that my business background would qualify me to be a constructive member of this committee.

OR ARMED SERVICES

My background as a combat carrier based pilot in World War II, coupled with Texas' high rank in number of bases, etc., would make this a most interesting committee. I have travelled abroad extensively on business and feel this would be a helpful background for being a useful member of the Armed Services Committee.

THIRD CHOICES -

SCIENCE AND ASTRONAUTICS

With NASA having such a large operation in Houston (although physically it is not in my district) this might be a natural. I am not scientifically oriented, but Houston's large stake in NASA makes this of special interest to Houstonians.

OR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

I have long been vitally interested in Foreign Affairs. Our district has a high level of education and income. Generally speaking the district is more oriented towards the "big picture" since the district is not seeking large federal expenditures, location of military bases, increased poverty funds, etc. Our people are vitally interested in World Affairs, Military matters, Overall.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

✓ Bush, Geo.: Tex
✓ 1. Approp.
✓ 2. Ways & Means
✓ 3. Interstate

January 13, 1967

Dear Gerry:

I hesitate imposing on you again but I should like to modify my previous requests for a committee assignment to include as a third preference, Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

My choices, therefore, are as follows:

- ✓ 1. Appropriations
- ✓ 2. Ways and Means
- ✓ 3. Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Many, many thanks.

Very truly yours,

George Bush
Ry

George Bush, M. C.



Honorable Gerald R. Ford
H-230, The Capitol
Washington, D. C.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

GEORGE BUSH
TEXAS-7TH DISTRICT

Dear Jerry,

Herewith some of
the Texas press response to
the W. O. S. appointment. I will
work hard to make the benefit
the GOP in the S.W.

Enjoyed the motion
picture deal -

Hastily,

George



GENERAL

js

Com. Assign. Request

~~"Republican - House Members
Misc. Corr."~~

~~(Bush, George)~~

*Bush-
24*

~~Re: press coverage~~

February 21, 1967

Dear George,

May I thank you most sincerely for your note and the copy of your press coverage on your Ways and Means appointment.

It is good to know that the press shares the high regard which your constituents and all of us have for George Bush.

Warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:mh



Honorable George Bush
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.