

Red ft. 4 *marguerite as President*



THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

Dear Friend,

Some political forecasters here see a possible loss of Republican seats in the Senate, at a time when we should be increasing our strength. When we are already outnumbered 58 Democrats to 42 Republicans, the loss of one seat would be most unfortunate.

Yet some of the more pessimistic forecasters predict a loss of 12 or more Republicans. While I do not agree with them, a margin of 70 Democrats to 30 Republicans would virtually mean the end of the two-party system. If that should happen, there would be no way to sustain the President's vetoes of wasteful, restrictive and inflationary legislation. To sustain a veto, we must control at least one-third of the Senate seats (34).

As you know, historically the party in the White House suffers a loss of seats in both the House and Senate.

Such a result in the 1974 elections probably would open up the floodgates of deficit spending. This should be of great significance to you. Republican pressure for economy, in spite of the lopsided margin against us, has at least limited deficit spending.

Your financial position will be seriously eroded if Republican strength is reduced at all in the next election. You already know what inflation can do to this nation. And I am sure that you are concerned about the continued decline in the value of the dollar. Without a Republican majority in the Senate, we cannot bring a turnabout, and this is no time to weaken our resolve.

There is little doubt that there will be massive efforts to defeat our responsible Republican incumbents in the Senate. In recent elections, there has been an outpouring of funds, professionals and facilities unlike anything I have seen before.

The Republican Senatorial Committee must provide the necessary funds to Republican candidates for the Senate. At this time, the Committee does not have the funds to carry on even a minimal campaign. It certainly could not offset the overpowering volume of dollars expected from liberal Democrats and radical groups.

If the Senatorial Committee is to get the necessary campaign funds, then those funds must come from you, by mail. There is no other source. And, don't forget, there are 34 Republican candidates to be financed in expensive, statewide campaigns.

The reason I am writing to you is this: To be effective in the November elections, the campaign money is needed now. It is needed this month. It is needed for commitments now, required for television, radio and other advertising and for other campaign materials.

I sincerely hope that you will respond quickly and generously. I am also asking the Committee that your reply be kept separate from routine mail, so that I may learn of the result of this personal request.

Thank you for your sacrifice in the service of our Party and Nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed word "Sincerely,".