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## **Kopechnes Support Kennedy**

Swiftwater, Pa.

The parents of Mary Jo Kopechne, the young woman who drowned when Senator Edward H. Kennedy's car went off a bridge in 1969, said yesterday they will support Kennedy if he runs for president.

"I'm for him and I would vote for him," said Gwen Kopechne, 56. "He stands for what I think is right. He's a lot better than what we've got now.

"We like the senator just as we liked his brothers, Robert and the President," said Frs. Kopechne.

Mary Jo Kopechne, 28, was a guest at a party on Chappaquiddick Island, Martha's Vineyard, Mass., on July 18, 1969. After the party, Kennedy and Miss Kopechne were driving in his car when it went off a small wooden bridge. Kennedy escaped, and said he tried futilely to save her.

Associated Press