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July 7, 1981

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Mr. Morton Blackwell
134 Old Executive Office Bldg.
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Morton:

Thanks again for taking time out of your busy schedule to meet with me recently. Also thanks for sending Dana Engleman over for an interview. He seems like a fine prospect.

Enclosed are the materials on the Reagan letter which I briefly mentioned to you. I hand delivered all of these materials to Lyn Nofziger on April 30th, however, we have still had no response. My letter to Reagan, Bob Michael's cover letter and the rough-draft response statement from the President were all written at Lyn's suggestion.

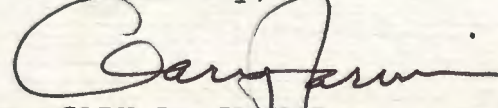
Ed Rollins and Herb Elingwood are also aware of this situation. Any help you can give in obtaining a statement from the President would be deeply appreciated.

I believe that a statement from the President cautiously endorsing the New Right's social issue initiatives is badly needed. Many of our conservative Republican leaders on Capitol Hill are still unsure how far they should go in fighting for our objectives until they see some visible White House leadership. Some are withholding support for the Helms-Crane school prayer bill until they know what Reagan's stance of this legislation will be.

In any case, you're the last person I need to explain the obvious importance and benefits a statement from the President would have on these issues. I've also kept Paul Wyreich full informed on the above and he has been very supportive of this attempt. Please don't hesitate to pass along any suggestions you might have on how we can wire a statement from the President.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next PAC luncheon, I remain

Faithfully,


GARY L. JARMIN
Legislative Director

GLJ/jf

Office of the Republican Leader

United States House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

April 30, 1981

The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

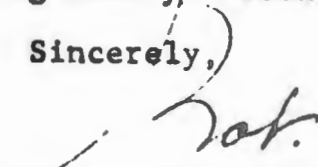
On Thursday, April 30 I was a guest at the "Sperling Breakfast", a group of journalists who meet periodically with elected and appointed officials for informal, but on-the-record discussions.

At this meeting I was asked many questions on many issues. But I was impressed with the fact that these journalists showed great interest in that collection of issues ranging from abortion to school prayer, usually referred to as "the social issues".

I bring this to your attention in light of the enclosed letter addressed to you from the "Project Prayer" coalition. A copy of this letter has come to my attention and, in light of the curiosity shown by journalists and my own interest in the subject, I would very much appreciate being informed of your response to the concerns expressed by Project Prayer. As Republican leader it is of utmost importance for me to be informed on your views on these important matters.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon, I remain

Sincerely,


Robert H. Michel
Republican Leader

RHM:mbg
Enclosure

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Christian Voice

April 30, 1981

Mr. Lyn Nofziger
Assistant to the President
Room 175 Old Executive Office Building
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Lyn:

Thanks again for taking time out of your busy schedule to meet with me, especially, for your offer of support to help us find a resolution to the concerns I expressed.

Per your suggestion, please find enclosed a copy of a letter to the President on behalf of the Project Prayer coalition, an accompanying note from Rep. Bob Michael and a rough-draft response for the President. I have also enclosed a list of the members and participating groups with Project Prayer.

I'm certain you will want to rewrite the rough-draft response from the President. I should point out, however, that we consider the statements in the last sentence of the third and fifth paragraphs to be the most important. I've also left you the option of having the President's response addressed to either myself or Bob Michael, or it could be sent to both of us (perhaps the letter could be the best alternative).

In order to gain the maximum impact possible from the President's response, we would like to distribute it to the media, mention it in our newsletters, forward it to members of Congress, etc. I hope there will not be any problem utilizing the President's letter in this manner. Obviously a letter from the President which we cannot publicly disclose would not be very useful in helping us alleviate our concerns. Please let me know if you feel that there should be any limits on the use of the President's response.

Lyn, I can't thank you enough for your sympathetic ear and willingness to assist us in finding a resolution to our concerns on this issue. Anything you can possibly do to help us on this important matter would be deeply appreciated.

Thanks again for all your help! And please don't hesitate to call on us if there is anything we can do to be of service.

Wishing you the best of luck in all your endeavors, I remain

GLJ/jf

Cordially,


GARY L. JARMIN, Director
Project Prayer

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April 28, 1981

Ronald Wilson Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the members of Project Prayer, I wish to extend our sincere gratitude for your often repeated support for the need to restore voluntary prayer in our Nation's public schools. We were especially delighted when you reaffirmed your support for this activity at the recent Conservative Political Action Conference. In regard to this pro-prayer effort, we feel that it is extremely important to inform you of some activities and concerns that have developed over this issue.

Project Prayer is an ad-hoc coalition of over forty-five national organizations and leaders which have banded together to lobby for the passage of the pro-prayer legislation introduced by Senator Jesse Helms (S.481) and Representative Philip Crane (H.R.2347). Called Project Prayer, this coalition considers the passage of the Helms-Crane legislation an extremely important priority for the 97th Congress. S.481 and H.R.2347 (identical bills) would allow Congress, as provided under Article III, Section 2 of the Constitution, to remove from federal courts jurisdiction in cases involving voluntary prayer in public schools and leave such a decision to state and local governments as our founding fathers intended (please refer to enclosed material).

We came very close to final passage of the Helms-Crane bill in the 96th Congress. The Senate adopted the Helms bill as an amendment to the Supreme Court Jurisdiction Act, S.450, in April, 1979. Due to the opposition of anti-school prayer Democrats controlling the House Judiciary Committee and Subcommittee with jurisdiction over this legislation, we were forced to go the discharge petition route. Rep. Phil Crane introduced Discharge Petition #7 on S.450 and by the close of the 96th Congress it had collected the signatures of 193 Representatives -- only 25 short of a successful majority.

Based on our near total success in the last Congress and with a substantially larger number of conservative Congressmen in the 97th, we firmly believe that the Helms-Crane legislation has an excellent chance of success. However, any opportunity of achieving a victory on this issue depends substantially on the continued support of your Administration.

In this regard we have, justifiably, become quite concerned over Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker's comments (and your subsequent endorsement of his statement) that all "social issue" legislation should be postponed for consideration until 1982. We fully appreciate the Senate Majority Leader's position in light of the fact that he is burdened with an enormous responsibility to concentrate his attention on passage of your Administration's budget and tax-cut proposals. Certainly we cannot, and do not, disagree whatsoever with Senator Baker's and your concern with this issue being considered the top priority of this Administration.

We are deeply concerned, however, that social issue legislation such as school prayer, not be neglected nor locked into an arbitrary timetable for consideration by the 97th Congress. We believe this would be a strategic error for several reasons:

First, postponing consideration of social issue legislation until 1982 would not allow the time required to successfully adopt a pro-school prayer bill. Should we be forced to go the discharge petition route again, which appears most likely, we will need an enormous amount of time to pursue this difficult parliamentary strategy successfully. It took us almost 12 months to obtain 193 signatures in the last Congress on the Crane discharge petition. We will need at least that same amount of time or more in this Congress. Given that 1982 will be a short session due to elections, we believe it is imperative that the Senate adopt the Helms bill this year in order to provide us the requisite amount of time needed to successfully pursue passage in the House where we anticipate substantial opposition.

Second, we understand that the Senate Subcommittee on the Constitution and Subcommittee on the Separation of Powers both intend to hold hearings relevant to this school prayer legislation in May and June respectively. These hearings should help to generate the necessary momentum to pass the Helms bill this year in the Senate. However, this may not happen should the Senate Majority Leader and the White House urge postponement of this issue until 1982.

Third, we believe it is unwise strategy to lock social issues into a rigid timetable for consideration. To avoid consideration of these issues until the Spring of 1982 will simply play into the hands of our opposition. Should we broadcast our battle plans in advance, the opposition will obviously husband its resources and energy to concentrate on fighting our efforts at that particular time. In the meantime, our opponents can focus their efforts on fighting your economic package comforted by the knowledge that their "social issue" flank is protected until next year.

Fourth, there have been a number of indications that the opposition will attempt to usurp the social issue leadership role from us and undermine our initiatives. Senate Minority Leader Robert Byrd has already made a statement to such effect. We also know that Rep. Robert Kastenmeier, Chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee considering the Helms-Crane bill, intends to hold hearings on the school prayer issue in late May. Kastenmeier has gone on record as being totally opposed to H.R.2347 and, we suspect, may try to report out a meaningless "pro-prayer" resolution which would have no effect on correcting this problem. The bottom line is that we absolutely cannot afford to patiently sit back and wait while our opponents actively try to outmaneuver us this year!

Fifth, we do not believe postponement of social issue legislation until next year will provide us a better opportunity for its success. We have no reason to believe that the Congressional battle over next year's budget cuts will be any less fierce than it is at the present. Considering the fact you will be seeking even deeper budget cuts next year than now, we can realistically anticipate just as difficult a struggle on Capitol Hill no less ferocious than the one being currently waged. Therefore, we do not see how any political advantage is gained by unnecessarily waiting until 1982 to pursue our goals.

Finally, we are certain you will agree with us on the importance of these social issues to our country and the need to achieve at least one victory for those who rallied to your election banner in the hope that this Administration could reverse the tide of immorality that has engulfed our nation. Unfortunately, we have received many phone calls and letters from our members expressing concern with your statement supporting Senator Baker's position. We have done our best to reassure them that you are still firmly in support of voluntary prayer in public schools and will continue to be a major leader on this important issue. Your commitment to school prayer is unquestioned in our opinion.

Our major concern is that this Administration not unwittingly jeopardize the success of our school prayer effort due to an ill advised strategy or preoccupation with other important issues. We see no conflict in pursuing both the economic and social issue objectives simultaneously. Congress routinely considers a wide range of issues concurrently. It is quite clear our supporters and opponents in the House and Senate intend to pursue social issue legislation regardless of the outcome of the budget, tax-cuts, etc. What we need most urgently are statements from the White House endorsing the pro-school prayer strategy that Project Prayer is pursuing in Congress.

Perhaps what is most needed at this juncture is a closer dialogue between the White House and the Project Prayer coalition efforts as the school prayer legislation is considered by Congress. The support from your Administration will be a crucial factor in the outcome of the school prayer legislation. Most importantly, we would deeply appreciate receiving your opinion on the issues and concerns we have brought to your attention.

Thank you very much for your thoughtful consideration of the above concerns. Please don't hesitate to call on us if we can be of any assistance on this important issue. We stand ready to help whenever possible.

Praying that our Lord will continue to bless you with strength, wisdom and courage as you guide our nation, I remain

Faithfully,

GARY L. JARMIN
Legislative Director

GLJ/jf

cc: Rep. Robert Michael
Rep. Trent Lott
Sen. Howard Baker
Sen. Ted Stevens
Sen. Paul Laxalt

PROJECT PRAYER—NEWS

418 C Street, N.E./Carriage House/Washington, D.C. 20002

Release: 12:00 Noon, May 20
Contact: 202-546-7977

NATIONAL COALITION FORMS TO PUSH SCHOOL PRAYER LEGISLATION -- MAJORITY ON SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUPPORT HELMS' SCHOOL PRAYER BILL

Today it was announced that over fifty-five national organizations and leaders have banded together in a coalition effort to lobby for the passage of legislation allowing for voluntary prayer in public schools. Called Project Prayer, the coalition plans an all-out effort to pass the Helms-Crane school prayer bill in the 97th Congress which would limit the jurisdiction of federal courts, including the Supreme Court, in cases involving voluntary prayer. The group also released the results of a preliminary Senate poll which shows that a majority of the Judiciary Committee favors passage of the school prayer bill (S.481) introduced by Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC).

Gary L. Jarmin, Project Director and spokesman for the group, stated "The formation of this coalition marks an historic step in the struggle to restore voluntary prayer in public schools. Never before has the pro-school prayer movement been as well organized nor as influential as it is today. Considering that we now have a Congress more favorably disposed toward social issue legislation and that the school prayer forces are better organized than before," Jarmin continued "we are extremely optimistic about our chances for passage of the Helms-Crane bill in this Congress."

Virtually identical legislation introduced by Helms and Crane came very close to success in the last Congress. The Helms bill was adopted by the Senate as an amendment in April, 1979, but became log-jammed in the House after the Crane Discharge Petition on the bill gathered the signatures of 193 members - 25 short of the necessary majority.

The results of a poll of Senate Judiciary members conducted by Project Prayer indicates that the Helms bill will likely be considered by the Senate in the near future. Asked whether or not they would vote in favor of the school prayer bill introduced by Senator Helms, ten of the eighteen members of the Judiciary Committee responded affirmatively. Only three Senators stated they were against and the remaining five said they were undecided or had no response to the question. Senators listed as being in favor or leaning in favor are: Byrd, R., East, DeConcini, Denton, Dole, Grassley, Hatch, Heflin, Laxalt, and Thurmond. Those against are: Baucus, Kennedy and Metzenbaum. Senators who are undecided or gave no response are: Biden, Leahy, Mathias, Specter and Simpson.

Jarmin said he believes the ultimate passage of the Helms-Crane bill will "depend on the success of Discharge Petition #3 introduced by Rep. Phil Crane in the House due to the opposition of key Democrats on the House Judiciary Committee. Members of the coalition are already mailing millions of letters to urge passage of the Helms-Crane bill and will

(more)

concentrate on the discharge petition introduced by Rep. Phil Crane on May 13th. We will also be coordinating efforts to place T.V. spots, newspaper ads and mail legislative alerts to constituents in the district of wavering Congressmen." Jarmin said.

"With announcement of this unprecedented coalition we also add an important warning: Project Prayer considers the Helms-Crane bill the only vehicle for the success of restoring voluntary school prayer short of a Constitutional Amendment. We will not accept any other alternatives" he concluded.

Members of the Project Prayer coalition are listed below in alphabetical order:

Act Ministries Inc.
American Christian Cause
Americans for Family and Freedom
Americans For God
American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
American Life Lobby
Rev. Claud Logan Asbury
Dr. Ben Armstrong
Rev. Raymond W. Barber
Mr. George Benson, Director of American Heritage Center*
Pastor Fletcher Brothers
Mrs. Hill McAllister Burch
Catholics for Christian Political Action
The Christian Inquirer
Christian Service Corp.
Christian Voice
Christian Voice Moral Government
Conservative Caucus
Conservative Victory Fund
Mr. Richard Ford
Enterprise Consultants
Faith Foundation
Faith Ministries
Family and Freedom Foundation
Family Life Seminars
Peter Gemma Jr., Director of National Pro-Life PAC*
General Federation of Womens Club
Vernie R. Glasson, Director of American Farm Bureau Federation*
Mr. Richard Headrick
Robert Heckman, Director of Young Americans for Freedom*
Morton A. Hill, SJ, Director of Morality in Media*
Iowa Conservative Union
George B. Jones, CPA
Kentucky Heritage Foundation
Kim Ministries
Leadership Action
Rev. Tim LaHaye
Life Amendment PAC
Rev. Ron Marr
Maryland Federation of Catholic Laity
Maryland Interfaith Community to Restore Optional School Prayer
Mid Americas PAC
Mr. William Murray
National Alliance of Senior Citizens, Inc.
National Back To God
National Christian Action Coalition
National Conference of American Ethnic Groups Inc.
Dr. William Powell
The Right Women
Louise Ropog
Mr. Howard Phillips
Protect America's Children
Ron Robinson, Director of Young America's Foundation*
Kathy Teague, Director of American Legislative Exchange Council*
Trinity Communicators
John C. Webb, Director of Americans for God*
Southern Baptist Journal
Mr. John R. Bruehl
Mr. Ed Rowe
*Organization Listed For Identification Purposes Only.

Friday, May 22, 1991

Scholars Say There Is Nothing to Stop Congress From Limiting Court's Power

By Fred Barbash

Washington Post Staff Writer

Constitutional scholars testified yesterday that no law or Supreme Court ruling prevents Congress from limiting the courts of jurisdiction over abortion, school prayer, busing or any other controversial issue.

In fact, witnesses testifying on legislation before a Senate subcommittee, even those who vigorously oppose the bills, emphasized that Congress powers under the Constitution to limit court jurisdiction are extremely broad.

It was an "unfortunate mistake" made by the framers of the Constitution, said Northwestern Law School Professor Martin H. Redish, who opposes the bills, "a troubling constitutional authority" he said, he hoped Congress would not exercise.

At least 20 bills to trim judicial authority are before Congress. Most are designed to counteract Supreme Court rulings of the past decade legalizing abortion and banning state-sponsored prayer and court-ordered busing. One would remove court jurisdiction over exclusion of women from the draft, currently before the Supreme Court.

Redish, Duke University Law Professor William Van Alstyne, Notre Dame University Law Professor Charles Rice and former White House counsel Lloyd N. Cutler testified before the Senate Judiciary subcommittee on the Constitution, chaired by Sen. Orrin G. Hatch (R-Utah), in a second day of hearings.

They said that such sweeping bills, though proposed many times before, have never been tested by enactment. All but Rice pleaded with the subcommittee not to provoke such a test now.

The impact of the bills, if passed, would be to force state courts to rule on issues that they said they do not want to decide. The bills would also limit the federal courts' jurisdiction over such issues, they said.

All but Rice objected to that outcome, saying it would bring chaos to America's system of government, "citizenship confusion," in Van Alstyne's words.

"There is no constitutional right to uniformity," Rice said. If there was too much chaos, he said, Congress could always change its mind at a later time. The bills are a surgical technique, he said, better than "tampering with the Constitution" by amending it with one which could "teach the [Supreme] Court a lesson."

Congress has authority to remove jurisdiction from Article III of the Constitution. "The Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the Congress shall make."

The breadth of the words "such exceptions" has never been fully tested in the Supreme Court, the scholars said. And, though each had his own

opinion about how far Congress can go, Redish said, "If Congress truly desires, it can do almost anything it wants to the jurisdiction of the lower federal courts or to the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court."

"It may seem striking to the lay members of the audience that the role of the Supreme Court was not much discussed by the framers," Van Alstyne said. "Congress' power is very broad... but once we begin, we may have a hell of a time knowing where to stop."

"If taken to the extreme," Cutler said, "such expansion of congressional power... could destroy the balance of constitutional authority among our three branches of government."

In the past few years, opponents of these measures gave them little chance of passage. With the change in administrations and the slant of Congress, however, groups like the American Civil Liberties Union have made defeat of the jurisdictional limitation bills a primary lobbying goal.

For the other side, the bills are part of a multi-pronged congressional effort this year to trim what it considers unbridled federal court power without having to go through the more difficult process of amending the Constitution.

The proposed "human life" bill, designed to treat abortion as murder by establishing through legislation that life begins with conception, is one of the prongs.

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March 4, 1982

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Office of Public Liason
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Morton:


Thank you for sending me a copy of your correspondence of February 25 to Stephen Keefe and for bringing this matter to my attention at the CPAC meeting.

I discussed this incident at CPAC with Steve and reprimanded him very strongly for his behavior. I also explained to him that he should be grateful for whatever assistance you afforded him; especially because job placement does not fall under your purview of responsibilities.

Steve seemed to be genuinely apologetic and regretful for his lack of self-control. I suggested that he express those feelings to you in writing. If he does not, I will politely ask him to no longer use me as a reference. Please keep me advised.

Finally, I'm in total agreement with your opinion and manner of handling this unfortunate episode. Hopefully, your letter to Steve "may do some good" as you suggested. Let us hope.

Best wishes,


GARY L. JARMIN
Legislative Director

GLJ/mh

Christian Voice

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April 21, 1981

Ronald Wilson Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are extremely grateful for your often repeated support for the need to restore voluntary prayer in our Nation's public schools. We were especially delighted when you reaffirmed your support for this activity at the recent Conservative Political Action Conference. In regard to this pro-prayer effort, we feel that it is extremely important to inform you of some activities and concerns that have developed over this issue.

Recently, Christians Voice and over forty-five national organizations have banded together to establish an ad-hoc coalition to lobby for the passage of the pro-prayer legislation introduced by Senator Jesse Helms (S. 481) and Representative Philip Crane (H.R. 2347). Called Project Prayer, this coalition considers the passage of the Helms-Crane legislation an extremely important priority for the 97th Congress. S.481 and H.R. 2347 (identical bills) would allow Congress, as provided under Article III, Section 2 of the Constitution, to remove from federal courts jurisdiction in cases involving voluntary prayer in public schools and leave such a decision to state and local governments as our founding fathers intended (please refer to enclosed material).

We came very close to final passage of the Helms-Crane bill in the 96th Congress. The Senate adopted the Helms bill as an amendment to the Supreme Court Jurisdiction Act, S. 450, in April, 1979. Due to the opposition of anti-school prayer Democrats controlling the House Judiciary Committee and Subcommittee with jurisdiction over this legislation, we were forced to go the discharge petition route. Rep. Phil Crane introduced Discharge Petition #7 on S.450 and by the close of the 96th Congress it had collected the signatures of 193 Representatives -- only 25 short of a successful majority.



Based on our near total success in the last Congress and with a substantially larger number of conservative Congressmen in the 97th, we firmly believe that the Helms-Crane legislation has an excellent chance of success. However, any opportunity of achieving a victory on this issue depends substantially on the continued support of your Administration.

In this regard we have, justifiably, become quite concerned over Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker's comments (and your subsequent endorsement of his statement) that all "social issue" legislation should be postponed for consideration until 1982. We fully appreciate the Senate Majority Leader's position in light of the fact that he is burdened with an enormous responsibility to concentrate his attention on passage of your Administration's budget and tax-cut proposals. We at Christian Voice are also deeply concerned about and supportive of your economic "package". In fact, our organization has launched a massive nationwide campaign/mailing effort to urge Americans to pressure their Congressman to support your budget proposals. Certainly we cannot, and do not, disagree whatsoever with Senator Baker's and your concern with this issue being considered the top priority of this Administration.

We are deeply concerned, however, that social issue legislation, such as school prayer, not be neglected nor locked into an arbitrary timetable for consideration by the 97th Congress. This would be a strategic error for several reasons:

First, postponing consideration of social issue legislation until 1982 would not allow the time required to successfully adopt a pro-school prayer bill. Should we be forced to go the discharge petition route again, which appears most likely, we will need an enormous amount of time to pursue this difficult parliamentary strategy successfully. It took us almost 12 months to obtain 193 signatures in the last Congress on the Crane discharge petition. We will need at least that same amount of time or more in this Congress. Given that 1982 will be a short session due to elections, we believe it is imperative that the Senate adopt the Helms bill this year in order to provide us the requisite amount of time needed to successfully pursue passage in the House where opposition is certain to be fierce.

Second, we understand that the Senate Subcommittee on the Constitution and the Subcommittee on the Separation of Powers both intend to hold hearings on this school prayer legislation in May and June respectively. These hearings should help to generate the necessary momentum to pass the Helms bill this year in the Senate. However, this may not happen should the Senate Majority Leader and the White House urge postponement of this issue until 1982.

Third, we believe it is unwise strategy to lock social issues into a rigid timetable for consideration. To avoid consideration of these issues until the Spring of 1982 will simply play into the hands of our opposition. Should we broadcast our battle plans in advance, the opposition will obviously husband its resources and energy to concentrate on fighting our efforts at that particular time. In the meantime, our opponent can focus their efforts on fighting your economic package comforted by the knowledge that their "social issue" flank is protected until next year.

Fourth, there have been a number of indications that the opposition will attempt to usurp the social issue leadership role from us and undermine our initiatives. Senate Minority Leader Robert Byrd has already made a statement to such effort. We also know that Rep. Robert Kastenmeier, Chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee considering the Helms-Crane bill, intends to hold hearings on the school prayer issue in late May. Kastenmeier has gone on record as being totally opposed to H.R. 2347 and, we suspect, may try to report out a meaningless "pro-prayer" resolution which would have no effect on correcting this problem. We also understand that the ranking Republican on Kastenmeier's subcommittee, Rep. Tom Railsback, has introduced a resolution, H. Con. Res. 17, which essentially supports Kastenmeier's strategy. We strongly oppose H. Con. Res. 17. It's purpose is simply to undermine the Helms-Crane bill. The bottom line is that we absolutely cannot afford to patiently sit back and wait while our opponents actively try to outmaneuver us this year!

Fifth, we do not believe postponement of social issue legislation until next year will provide us a better opportunity for its success. We have no reason to believe that the Congressional battle over

next year's budget cuts will be any less fierce than it is at the present. Considering the fact you will be seeking even deeper budget cuts next year than now, we can realistically anticipate just as difficult a struggle on Capitol Hill no less ferocious than the one being currently waged. Therefore, we do not see how any political advantage is gained by unnecessarily waiting until 1982 to pursue our goals.

Finally, we are certain you will agree with us on the importance of these social issues to our country and the need to achieve at least one victory for those who rallied to your election banner in the hope that this Administration could reverse the tide of immorality that has engulfed our nation. Unfortunately, we have received many phone calls and letters from our members who supported you in 1980 expressing concern with your statement supporting Senator Baker's position. We have done our best to reassure them that you are still firmly in support of our issues and will continue to be a major leader on behalf of school prayer. Your commitment to school prayer is unquestioned in our opinion.

Our major concern is that this Administration not unwittingly jeopardize the success of our school prayer effort due to an ill advised strategy or preoccupation with other important issues. We see no conflict in pursuing both the economic and social issue objectives simultaneously. Congress routinely considers a wide range of issues concurrently. It is quite clear our supporters and opponents in the House and Senate intend to pursue social issue legislation regardless of the outcome of the budget, tax-cuts, etc. What we need most urgently are statements from the White House endorsing the pro-school prayer strategy which will enhance instead of impeding our efforts.

Perhaps what is most needed at this juncture is a closer dialogue between the White House and the Project Prayer coalition effort as the school prayer legislation is considered by Congress. The support from your Administration will be a crucial factor in the outcome of the school prayer legislation. Only by maintaining close communication can we avoid unnecessary misunderstandings and develop a truly successful strategy in pursuit of a victory on this important issue.

We thank you very much for your thoughtful consideration of the above concerns. Please don't hesitate to call on us if we can be of any assistance on this or any other issue. We stand ready to help whenever possible.

Praying that our Lord will continue to bless you with strength, wisdom and courage as you guide our nation, I remain

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jarmin", written over the typed name.

GARY L. JARMIN
Legislative Director

GLJ/jf

cc: Senator Howard Baker
Ed Meese
Elizabeth Dole
Lyn Noziger
Herb Ellingwood
Max Freidersdorf
Ted Olsen
Morton Blackwell
Bill Gribbon

of religion should not be suspended while they are in attendance. The language of the first amendment assumes that this basic freedom should be in force at all times and in all places."

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the "Voluntary School Prayer Act of 1981" be printed in the Record at this point.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

7

S. 481

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Voluntary School Prayer Act of 1981".

SEC. 2. Chapter 81 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

"§ 1259. Appellate jurisdiction; limitations

"(a) Notwithstanding the provision of sections 1253, 1254, and 1257 of this chapter the Supreme Court shall not have jurisdiction to review, by appeal, writ of certiorari, or otherwise, any case arising out of any State statute, ordinance, rule, regulation, or any part thereof, or arising out of any act interpreting, applying, or enforcing a State statute, ordinance, rule, or regulation, which relates to voluntary prayers in public schools and public buildings.

"For the purposes of this section, the term 'voluntary prayer' shall not include any prayer composed by an official or employee of a State or local government agency."

(b) The section analysis at the beginning of chapter 81 of such title 28 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new item:

"1259. Appellate jurisdiction; limitations."

SEC. 3. (a) Chapter 85 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

"§ 1364. Limitations on jurisdiction

"Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the district courts shall not have jurisdiction of any case or question which the Supreme Court does not have jurisdiction to review under section 1259 of this title."

(b) The section analysis at the beginning of the chapter 85 of such title 28 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new item:

"1364. Limitations on jurisdiction."

SEC. 4. The amendments made by sections 11 and 12 of this Act shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, except

that such amendments shall not apply with respect to any case which, on such date of enactment, was pending in any court of the United States.

Bob Michel

Social Issues Won't Go Away

Any congressman who has been in Washington as long as I have—more than a quarter of a century—can be excused for believing he has seen it all. But just when you think there can be nothing new in politics, along come the social issues: abortion, busing, quotas and school prayer.

These social questions have been temporarily sidelined by the urgency of economic matters. Some people assume that the emphasis on the economy, and even foreign policy, is so strong today that social questions have been buried in a national graveyard for sticky issues, finally and forever.

Not so.

These issues are different in kind, not just in degree, from the usual issues that confront Congress. They deal with basic values and therefore have the ability to inflame passions on all sides. The social issues are not going to go away, and Congress is going to have to come to grips with them.

Yet there are still those in Congress—in both parties—who refuse to adjust to the political realities of the 1980s. Rather than discuss the facts of the social issues, they spend an enormous amount of time and energy trying to flee them.

One way of doing this is by pretending that concern about abortion and school prayer and busing and quotas is simply a temporary and rather distasteful political phenomenon. The social issues are, we are told, "single issue" questions and therefore somewhat disreputable. President Carter, in his farewell address, made such a point.

Ironically, this argument is often made by those who, only a few short years ago, were telling us that American involvement in the Vietnam War was immoral and that no matter how one might feel about other important issues, a wrong attitude on this single issue deserved instant political damnation. We can only smile indulgently when we are told today by many of the same people that a "single issue" voter is somehow irresponsible.

House Republican Leader Michel argues that, despite its present concentration on economic issues, Congress has an obligation to address the controversial social issues too—"busing, abortion, quotas and school prayer."

Contrary to the myth that social issues activists are single-minded fanatics, those who oppose abortion-on-demand or who favor school prayer are, I have found, as deeply concerned as the rest of us over traditional political issues such as the economy and national security. But they feel that Supreme Court decisions and bureaucratic actions in areas of traditional values have robbed them of their right to participate in shaping (not, as some say, "imposing") policy in matters they are convinced should be left in the hands of the people. And by no definition I am aware of can those concerned with social issues all be labeled "conservative Republican." The pro-life, anti-busing and school prayer movements transcend party and ideological lines.

Those who hold strong views on these issues are not outside the traditional area of political concern. They are not all "New Right" or "Moral Majority" members. Just because most of us in Congress do not relish dealing with questions of abortion or school prayer doesn't mean we can turn our backs on those who say these issues should be discussed and, yes, voted upon. Congress wasn't created so that congressmen could handle only those issues with which they feel comfortable.

Let me give one example of what I mean. Eight years after the Supreme Court decision on abortion, there are still millions of Americans deeply concerned about abortion-on-demand. Yet pro-

posed legislation dealing with the abortion issue has languished in House subcommittees for years because the House majority simply doesn't want to see the issue dealt with openly. You don't have to be a right-to-lifer to know this is precisely the kind of thing that has led the public to have such a low opinion of Congress. Even if you are in favor of every aspect of the 1973 Supreme Court decision, a sense of fairness and a commitment to the democratic process should suggest that those who oppose the decision deserve a fair hearing in Congress. Perhaps the constitutional amendments should be examined; perhaps other measures might be considered. But one thing is certain: the issue can no longer be ignored.

Another ploy used by those who don't want to address these issues is to accuse adherents of these movements of being "shrill" and therefore not respectable enough for congressional atten-

tion. When I hear this said, I often think of the late Adam Clayton Powell. Powell was sometimes less than civil when speaking about civil rights. He might even have been called shrill at times. But Powell's eccentricities and faults did not in any way invalidate the political, social and moral correctness of the civil rights cause he often championed.

It seems to me that those who supported civil rights even though they didn't like Powell's approach should remember this when they use the "shrillness" charge as a means of avoiding the responsibility of taking up social issues on their merits.

I agree with President Reagan's initial emphasis on trying to solve our economic problems. But I also agree with him that those problems that directly affect the values of family, school and community are also major concerns and that we must not pretend they do not exist just because they are difficult. There are, in short, two mistakes Congress can make concerning the social issues. The first is to treat them as if nothing else matters. The second is to treat them as if they don't matter at all.



The writer, a congressman from Illinois, is Republican leader of the House of Representatives.

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July 20, 1982

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Mr. Morton Blackwell
Assistant to the President
Official Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

I'm sure that we all agree that the November 82 elections will probably be the most significant elections of this decade ... with the possible exception of 1980. If the feared losses in Congress become a reality then November, of course, will have serious consequences for all of the important issues that we are all deeply concerned about. I need not belabor this obvious point ... especially with you.

To come swiftly to the point, I believe it will be important for the leadership of the "Christian Right" and for our loyal supporters to have an opportunity, after the elections are over, to meet together and to assess the serious implications of those elections ... whichever way they go.

I have, therefore, been investigating the possibility of what I would call a POST-ELECTION STRATEGY AND POLICY CONFERENCE, to be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, the last week of November, 1982. I propose that we gather together some of the finest minds in the conservative political and religious worlds to address the question,

"AMERICA ... WHERE NOW?"

This letter is for the dual purpose of acquainting you with our plans, and to invite you to address this conference on the subject of the moral issues and related legislation. More details follow in this letter.

Recently I have been doing a great deal of research into the feasibility of this conference. I have tested the idea on a number of key people who influence large groups of people and have met with a resoundingly positive response from all of them. Here, therefore, are some of the specifics:

I. Conference Duration and Location

I have cleared space sufficient for our needs at the deluxe Hilton Hawaiian Village on Waikiki Beach, in Honolulu for the period of November 24 to 30 (over the Thanksgiving season).

II. Price and Services to be included

The Conference, including airfare from Los Angeles, deluxe hotels (2 to a room with a single surcharge for those who wish) transfers, flower lei greeting, welcome reception, conference meeting space, sightseeing and final evening banquet will be offered to the public for \$799. The appropriate prices are also being calculated by the airlines for departures from the following cities as well:

Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Miami, Phoenix, New York, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington, D.C.

III. Daily Projected Schedule

- Nov. 24 - Upon arrival in Honolulu the guests will receive a flower lei greeting and bus transfer to the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel on Waikiki Beach. After checking in to their rooms there will be an evening reception time with beverages, hors d'oeuvres, etc.
- Nov. 25 - First morning session featuring two outstanding guest speakers. A special Thanksgiving day celebration will also be arranged to commemorate this event and to offer our combined thanks to God. Afternoon sightseeing to Pearl Harbor to view in person the results of "the day that will live in infamy."
- Nov. 26 - Morning session with two guest speakers, balance of day at leisure.
- Nov. 27 - The same schedule.
- Nov. 28 - The same schedule.
- Nov. 29 - Morning session with two outstanding guest speakers, afternoon at leisure, evening final banquet dinner for all guests.
- Nov. 30 - Transfer to Honolulu International airport for return flights to the Mainland.

Mr. Morton Blackwell
July 20, 1982
Page 3

Our plan is to keep the official Conference events confined to the morning hours thus leaving an abundance of time available for much needed relaxation, rest and informal discussion. It may be desirable to schedule some afternoon seminars during the week. Your thoughts on this would be very welcome.

IV. Fundraising Potential

We are inviting all of our colleagues who head up the various "Christian Right" organizations to join with us as co-sponsors of this Conference and we are encouraging them to promote it through their own mailing lists. This could have two important consequences for each supporting group.

- A. Each participating group will receive \$100.00 for each person they directly enlist as a participant. This could certainly be a welcome source of funding at a time when the checkbooks of most of our organizations will be in a rather depleted state due to election activities.
- B. While in Hawaii, we want to encourage each participating group to schedule their own luncheon, breakfast, dinner meeting, etc., with their constituents for the purpose of cementing those relationships and enlisting the support of their members in important post-election programs.

V. Invited Guests

It is critically important that this Conference address the overriding theme "AMERICA...WHERE NOW?" from a number of different perspectives. I have, therefore, sought the guidance and suggestions of respected colleagues as we have issued invitations. Here is a list of those to whom invitations have already been extended or to whom invitations are now being extended. These names appear in alphabetical order. Senator Jeremiah Denton; Cong. Robert Dornan; Dr. Jerry Falwell; Gen. Daniel Graham; Senator Jesse Helms; Mr. Gary Jarmin; Cong. Jack Kemp; Dr. Tim LaHaye; Dr. W. S. McBurnie; Mr. Ed McAteer; Mr. Ed Meese; Mr. Lyn Nofziger; Mr. Howard Phillips; The Honorable Donald Regan; Martha Rountree; Rev. James Robison; Dr. Francis Schaeffer; Mrs. Phyllis Schlafly; Dr. Thomas Sowell; Mr. Richard Viguerie; Secty. James Watt, Mr. Paul Weyrich and The Honorable Casper Wineberger.

This now brings me to the most important purpose for this letter. Please accept this as a warm invitation for you to join us in Hawaii as one of our featured guest speakers. I feel it is most important for you to share your valued insights and focus particularly on the social issues like voluntary school prayer, abortion, tax credits and related issues to be addressed during the remaining two years of President Reagan's first term in office. I would, of course, expect

Mr. Morton Blackwell
July 20, 1982
Page 4

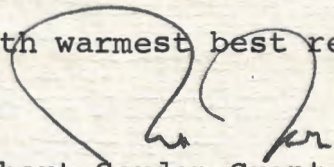
to cover your flight expenses from the Mainland to Hawaii and your hotel accommodations while at the Conference. If your schedule would not permit you to remain the entire week, and you should choose to stay only for a couple of days, that would, of course, be your choice. I would want you to bring one major address on a topic that you feel would be appropriate to the occasion.

Our hope is to have some form of acceptance from as many of our invited guests as possible by ~~late July~~ so that we can then launch our national advertising campaign beginning early August using Human Events and other conservative outlets, as well as direct mail approaches. Our expectation is for a minimum of 500 participants. Given the stature of our invited guest speakers, this, of course, could easily escalate to a thousand or more.

Gary Jarmin, our chief lobbyist, will be in touch with your office very shortly in regards to this letter. He will be prepared to answer any questions you might have. It would be helpful if you would study your schedule and give us even a tentative acceptance by July 30 so that we can go ahead with our printed material. We do realize that conflicts could arise at a later time that may impinge on such plans and, of course, we will take that into consideration in our printed material where we present the "invited guest speakers."

I suspect that, in addition to the inspiration that we will all receive there, we will probably all be very ready for an opportunity to relax and recover from post-election exhaustion.

With warmest best regards,



Robert Gordon Grant, Ph.D.

RGG/jmb
cc: Gary Jarmin

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Christian Voice

June 16, 1981

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Mr. Morton Blackwell
Office of Public Liason
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Morton:

It's been a long time since we've had a chance to have a meaningful discussion and sharing of ideas. I regret that we've managed to grow somewhat distant and any subsequent misunderstandings that might have arisen from the lack of contact and communication.

It is my earnest prayer that we could "shake the dust of our sandals" and move ahead as brothers centered on God to fulfill this divine purpose for our nation. I hope that you feel likewise and would be willing to accept my invitation to be my guest at lunch sometime in the near future.

I will have my secretary contact your office in a few days to see if a meeting - convenient with your schedule can be arranged. Please don't hesitate to contact me in the meantime if I can be of any assistance.

Looking forward to seeing you soon, I remain

Faithfully,

GARY L. JARMIN
Legislative Director

GLJ/jf

No lunch -
I have for
appointment.
June 25
3PM

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October 7, 1982

Mr. Paul Weyrich
CSFC
721 2nd St., NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Paul:

It is my sincere and prayerful desire for us to "shake the dust off our sandals" and to continue to move forward as brothers united in the cause to which we are both deeply dedicated. Whatever else I may say in this letter, I want to assure you that the ultimate purpose of this missive is to restore a harmonious and cooperative relationship. Although we have had a few differences in the past, I want to reassure you, Paul, that I greatly respect your political expertise and many outstanding contributions to the movement.

Even among friends and allies differences will sometimes arise. Unfortunately, the School Prayer Day Rally was one of those occasions. And since certain accusations have been leveled against me for my criticism of the rally, I feel duty bound to set the record straight. The following will be my last comment on this affair and, as far as I'm concerned, a closed book which will remain forever behind us.

First, I should address the Washington Times quote printed the Tuesday before the rally. My recollection is that the un-attributed statement was made as a background comment. I was also a little peeved when it showed up in print. I could have easily lied that I did not make the comment, but once it was out, I never denied being the source. While I regret that the statement became public, I certainly do not apologize for the sentiments I expressed.

I know that you became very angry when this quote appeared, but I was also extremely angry. The Washington Times reporter called me shortly after I had returned from the Senate following the first cloture vote. Unfortunately, I was the only person in the movement to help Jesse Helms and do last minute lobbying on the school prayer measure. By contrast, the other side had a very strong force of 30 or 40 people present--the ACLU, ABA, NEA, Common Cause, Mainline Church leaders, et. al.-- who had us (rather me) completely outgunned. Yes, Paul, I was angry, very angry.

My anger, however, did not begin on that day, it just reached its boiling over point. The reason is quite obvious: I was mad because so much of the energy, resources and manpower of the movement was being concentrated on the School Prayer Rally rather than on this extremely important legislative battle. And I strongly believe we could have won. Nine Senators who had voted for this identical measure two or three times in the past defected on us. We only needed to pick up four or five of those votes. We had commitments from two Senators to vote with us on cloture once we reached 58. With enough pressure from the movement, I am almost certain we could have kept at least four of those nine Senators from defecting.

I also felt deeply embarrassed, hurt and sorry for Senator Helms. After all the many countless times he has gone to the wall for us and just when he needed us most, the movement was nowhere in sight. Quite frankly, I wouldn't blame Senator Helms if he refused to ever help us again. But, of course, he would not do that because he isn't that kind of man. He has always been there when we needed him but, unfortunately, the movement didn't reciprocate when he desperately needed us.

Essentially, this entire problem began much earlier and basically boils down to two causes: one, a fundamental difference in strategy; and two, a disregard for the principal leadership in the school prayer movement.

From the beginning it was clear that you and Morton Blackwell on one hand and myself on the other had a deep disagreement on school prayer strategy. I tried to caution that the prospects for a vote on the Constitutional Amendment in this session of Congress were extremely remote and almost certain not to succeed. My suggestion very early on was that we start building support for the Constitutional Amendment but not push for a vote until the next Congress. Rather, I recommended that we concentrate on the court jurisdiction bill which had a much greater chance of success and would have also accomplished our political goals as regards its usefulness in the November elections. Especially in light of what has happened, I believe my predictions were all too accurate, and the strategy I outlined was the best course to have followed.

Despite my deep reservations about the strategy you and Morton were pursuing, I did make a sincere attempt to offer some ideas which might have helped the Constitutional Amendment. In fact, one suggestion I made was very similar to the concept behind the School Prayer Rally. I sent a memorandum to Morton on July 14th (copy enclosed) recommending that we hold a joint press conference of the Project Prayer leadership and arrange a meeting for this group with the President. I believe this type of event would have accomplished all the objectives of the School Prayer Day rally without requiring an inordinate expenditure of time, money and manpower of the movement. Furthermore, I believe this event would have been better timed and had some influence on the vote in the Senate. Again, unfortunately, my suggestions were completely ignored. All of which brings me to my second point: a disregard for the opinions and input of the school prayer leadership.

It was only after the plans for the School Prayer Day Rally had been organized, its leadership appointed, and the wheels already in motion, that I was ever informed about the project -- specifically by Sally Reed asking me if I wanted to be on the Entertainment Committee. Quite frankly, I considered this intentional slight humiliating and disrespectful of Christian Voice's leadership and contributions to the school prayer cause.

After my first (and last) meeting with the Entertainment Committee I developed a grave concern that the rally was going to be an embarrassing failure and, worse, a diversion of the movement's resources away from the passage of the court jurisdiction bill. I privately communicated these concerns to Sam Walker several weeks before the rally.

Despite these reservations we at CV did make a demonstration of support and unity for the effort (the Washington Times article being the only exception). Morton can verify that I tried to get Pat Robertson and John Giminez to attend the rally. I called Ed McAteer and asked him to invite Jimmy Draper, current head of the Southern Baptist Convention, and/or Adrian Rogers. (Ed, incidentally, thought the rally was a bad idea). I did line-up Rabbi Ben-Ami to speak at the event. We sent out an Alert on the rally to all of Project Prayer's members. We even had several of CV's leaders in Texas fly all the way to Washington, D.C. to attend the rally, plus myself and my family attended. At no time did I ever call anyone and discourage them from helping or participating in the rally-- even though I often wanted to do so.

Furthermore, we were prepared to spend two thousand dollars to help pay for the cost of some of the speakers' airline tickets. I made a tentative commitment to that effect and later was given confirmation by CV's California headquarters. We were prepared to follow through with that commitment until something very important happened. Dr. Robert Grant, Chairman of Christian Voice, received a letter from Sam Walker on School Prayer Day 1982 stationery. Grant called me and fumed that CV's name did not appear on the letterhead as a member of the Advisory Board! Dr. Grant had every right to be angry and informed me that because of this insult we would withdraw our commitment to contribute financially.

Once again, this incident revealed how shabbily we at CV were being treated. After asking us to join the effort, invite speakers and contribute money, we were treated as insignificant, second-class members of the coalition-- despite the fact that CV has been at the forefront of the school prayer leadership for the past three years.

All of this brings me to my final point. The coalition will only survive and succeed when its individual members are treated with, at the very least, a minimum of respect. And this is especially true when it comes to issues that a member of the coalition has staked out a very important leadership role. Christian Voice wants the coalition to succeed and believes it can make a very valuable and productive contribution to the coalition. But how can you possibly expect us to react any differently than we did when our expertise, strategy, leadership and input are, at best being ignored, and, at worst being undermined?

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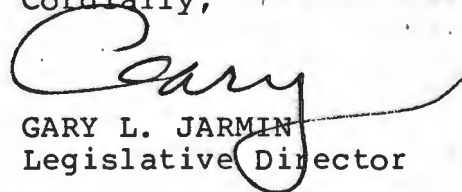
And that is what irritates me the most. I deeply believe that from beginning to end the organizers of the school prayer rally undermined the strategy and leadership of myself, the Project Prayer Coalition and pro-school prayer legislators. If anyone has a right to be angry over this whole event, I don't think anyone has more right nor is more justified than we at CV.

In conclusion, I now return to the original and most important purpose of this letter: that we can put this episode behind us and move forward in a new spirit of cooperation, respect and unity. The sooner we can put our differences behind us, the better. Neither us, nor the movement, can afford to continue divisive and counter-productive quarrels. That does not mean when I think something is wrong that I will remain silent. Rather, I hope we can minimize our differences and whenever they may arise, seek to resolve them in a spirit of friendship, candor and respect.

The one silver lining in this unfortunate cloud is that we can all benefit from the experience. I certainly have gained some valuable insights and lessons and am sure you have as well. Hopefully, we can put this instructive experience to good use in the future for the coalition, the cause that unites us and our own mental health.

Hoping we can remain good allies and friends in the many battles ahead, I remain

Cordially,



GARY L. JARMIN
Legislative Director

P.S.- By the way, please pass along my thanks to whoever told "Alice in Potomac Land" that I was partly to blame for the rally's poor turnout. I've received about a dozen phone calls from people saying that they didn't realize I was so influential! Neither did I.

GLJ/mfh

enc.

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Act Ministries Inc.
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Americans for God
American Gold Star Mothers
American Life Lobby
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Morality in Media*
The Conservative Union
George B. Jones
Kentucky Heritage Foundation
Life Ministries
Leadership Action
Mr. Tim LaHaye
Life Action Ministries
Life Amendment PAC
Mr. Ron Malt
Life and Federation of Catholic Laity
Life and Interfaith Community to
Restore Optional School Prayer
Life America Conservative PAC
Moral Majority
National Alliance of Senior Citizens
National Back to God
National Christian Action Coalition
National Conference of American
Youth Groups
Wood Phillips
William Powell
For America's Children
Right Woman
Robinson
Young America Foundation*
Mr. Roper
Only America*
Power
Unfathomable Issues and Answers*
Southern Baptist Journal
The Teague
Congressional Legislative Exchange
Council
Texas Eagle Forum
Family Communicators
John C. Webb
Robert S. Wright
The United Way
United Way for
United Way Forum

* Organization listed for
informational purposes only

July 14, 1982

TO: Morton Blackwell
FROM: Gary Jarmin, Project Prayer
RE: President Reception/Meeting With
School Prayer Leaders

We want to get our nationwide, grassroots campaign for the President's constitutional amendment off with a big bang in the near future. To successfully accomplish this I propose the following:

1. Establish July 30th as the cut-off date for people/organizations to join the Project Prayer coalition (we have grown from our original 62 members to now over 110).
2. Invite all the Project Prayer members to attend a kick-off press conference, including Sen. Thurmond and Tom Kindness, here in Washington, DC sometime in early or mid August.
3. Hold a reception/meeting on the same day with R.R. and a White House briefing in the OEB on the constitutional amendment.

I think the above would greatly help to give impetus and new life to the school prayer movement. The key to bringing these leaders to Washington, D.C. for a press conference will greatly depend on them meeting with the President. We can arrange the press conference at almost any time. What we need to know ASAP is (a) whether the President will agree to such a meeting, and (b) what date would be best for his schedule.

Please Advise.

cc: Connie Marshner

PROJECT PRAYER—NEWS

418 C Street, N.E./Carriage House/Washington, D.C. 20002

LEGISLATIVE ALERT--LEGISLATIVE ALERT--LEGISLATIVE ALERT--LEGISLATIVE ALERT

TO: Project Prayer Members and Friends
FROM: Gary L. Jarmin, Project Director

This Legislative Alert comes to you as an update on the status and progress of school prayer legislation in Congress. Time is running short for this session and we urgently need to rally some strong show of support for school prayer. To do this we need your support and that of your members.

The President's proposed Constitutional Amendment on School Prayer, S.J. Res. 199, is definitely moving in the Senate. The Senate Judiciary Committee, chaired by Sen. Strom Thurmond, has just completed two days of hearings on the school prayer amendment. Although the Judiciary Committee is favorable to the concept, at least one more day of hearings is tentatively scheduled for September with mark-up and a committee vote to follow. Thus, chances are good that the School Prayer Amendment will come to a full Senate vote in the fall-- no later than October 8th.

The best chance for pro-school prayer advocates to make an impact on Congress this session is in the Senate on the Constitutional Amendment. But you must tell your members to write their Senators NOW urging them to vote FOR the Constitutional Amendment on school prayer. NOW is the time to make those key undecided Senators especially feel the pressure of their constituents' views on this issue. It is absolutely imperative that we get the 2/3 vote (67) in the Senate on the Constitutional Amendment if we are to have a good chance next year. We need to carry the momentum on to next year's session of Congress.

Please print this appeal in your newsletters and alerts for September. Polls have consistently shown that there is an overwhelming majority of support for school prayer (latest Gallup Poll reveals over 79% in favor). Obviously, the grassroots support is there, now we need to channel it in the most effective manner.

WRITE: Senator _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

CALL: Capitol Switchboard Phone
(202) 224-3121

INFORMATION ITEM:

On the agenda for September is a National School Prayer Day rally scheduled for September 25. The rally will bear the theme "Let Freedom Ring". President Reagan has been invited to be the keynote speaker at the rally to be held on the steps of the Capitol. Sen. Jesse Helms, Sen. Strom Thurmond, Sen. Orrin Hatch, Rep. Tom Kindness, Rep. Robin Beard and Rep. Phil Crane will headline a cast of national religious leaders, sports celebrities and Christian entertainers in a show of support for school prayer and religious freedom. Please promote this rally in your newsletters and urge members and friends to attend if at all possible. Contact Sam Walker (202/224-2766) or Sally Reed (202/546-3000) for more information.