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**CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT  
THE WHITE HOUSE**

**Andrew H. Card, Jr.  
Phone: (202) 456-6798  
Fax: (202) 456-1907**

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DATE: Tuesday, July 09, 2002

TO	ACTION REQUESTED
Nick Calio (LEG AFFAIRS) WW	For Your Information

**NOTES:**

**PREPARED BY:**

Melissa Bennett ... (202) 456-7256

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

NO INC REC'D IN ORM

July 9, 2002

517196  
EG006-039

The Honorable Jimmy Carter  
441 Freedom Parkway  
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

Dear Mr. Carter:

Thank you for your letter to President Bush regarding election reform and, in particular, the voting rights of felons. As you know, when the National Commission on Federal Election Reform presented its report last July, the President endorsed its four fundamental principles. One of these principles is that the Federal Government should respect the primary role of State, county, and local governments in the administration of elections. Pursuant to this principle, States generally should determine, free from Federal control, whether felons lose their right to vote and under what circumstances and what conditions their franchise might be restored.

To the extent that the Federal Government has an continuing obligation regarding felons' voting rights, that obligation will be met by the executive branch agencies with jurisdiction over the subject matter -- specifically, the Department of Justice and the Federal Election Commission.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in the important issue of Federal election reform. I will forward your letter to the Department of Justice and the Federal Election Commission for further review.

Sincerely,



Andrew H. Card, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

4 letters

020710

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 9, 2002

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
Post Office Box 927  
Rancho Mirage, California 92270

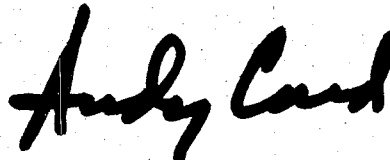
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*Please give my best to Mrs. Ford.*

020710

THE WHITE HOUSE  
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July 9, 2002

The Honorable Jack Kemp  
Suite 900  
1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

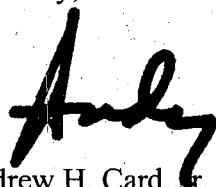
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The Honorable Juanita Millender-McDonald  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

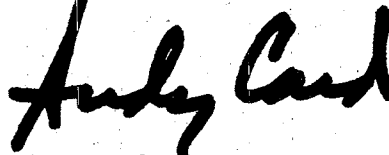
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AHC/HEM/lynn (7MISC)  
(reform.frm)



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