

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 6, 1977

JOANN

MEMORANDUM FOR: JAMES FALLOWS
FROM: MARGARET COSTANZA *mc*
SUBJECT: State of the Union Address

I would like to suggest that you include in the State of the Union draft mention of the activities of this Administration in working for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

As you know, the 27th Amendment must be ratified by 38 State Legislatures in order to be included in the Constitution. So far, 35 states have acted favorably upon the measure.

Both the President and the First Lady have made a series of personal calls to state legislators urging their support as the ERA has come up in their states for a vote. Judy Carter -- the President's daughter-in-law -- has travelled from state to state to work for the amendment's passage.

Congress is now considering extending the period of time allowed for ratification for another seven years -- an action which the Department of Justice has said would not be unconstitutional.

If you need any further information, we'd be glad to furnish it.

Thanks so much.