

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

women
ERA

April 11, 1977

MEMORANDUM TO: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: MARGARET COSTANZA *mc*
SUBJECT: Florida Vote on ERA

Over the past several days, I've been inundated by calls from women throughout the country urging us to do all we can to pave the way for a favorable vote on the Equal Rights Amendment in Florida on Wednesday.

In anticipation of Wednesday's vote, I have placed a call to Democratic State Senator William G. Zinkil urging him to support the Amendment.

As Senator Zinkil's name falls last on the roll call in the State Senate, his affirmative vote would be heard by ERA supporters throughout the nation. I asked him to take advantage of this opportunity to take a strong and visible stand on equal rights for women.

During our conversation, Zinkil told me that he had not yet made up his mind on the ERA but that, when he did, there was only one person with whom he'd discuss his decision -- the President of the United States.

I feel that a call from you would make the difference.

I should add that Senator Zinkil has written you for your opinion on the Attorney General's ruling to the effect that while a nay vote in a state can be rescinded, a yea vote cannot. If you call him, he may ask you about that ruling.