


THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON
August 19, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: William E. Timmons 

SUBJECT: Freedom of Information Act Amendments

Last minute pleas from the Attorney General and others won us a week's delay in the final conference on the troublesome bill (H. R. 12471) to amend the Freedom of Information Act. The conference will take place tomorrow, and final action on the bill should result.

During the intervening period representatives of the affected agencies and the White House, led by the Justice Department, have been negotiating with staff of the conferees and feel that they have made progress. However, your personal involvement is necessary if we have any hope of securing an acceptable bill.

Attached for your signature are letters to Senator Kennedy and Congressman Moorhead, the leaders of the respective conferees. These identical letters, copies of which will be furnished all conferees, set forth your position on the four most important provisions in a manner consistent with current negotiations.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the letters as soon as possible so that they may be delivered to the conferees prior to tomorrow's meeting.

cc: Phil Buchen

