



Reserve Officers Association of the United States

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Mr. Richard A. Reiman
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Rich:

As discussed with you by phone this morning, I suggest that you bring the following to the attention of Midge Costanza.

I have an original banner which was worn by my mother in the suffrage parades in the 1913-1917 era here in Washington and elsewhere. She was an activist for women's rights. The banner is 4 1/2" wide and over 5' long, yellow and white, and contains the lettering "VOTES FOR WOMEN" in black on a white background. It is designed to be worn over one shoulder with the lettering duplicated to be seen from both front and back.

As I am a strong supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment, I thought it would be a good idea to lend this banner to Midge to help in her efforts to gain passage for the Amendment. ROA has taken no position on this issue, but I support it as an individual.

You may recall that when I was Chief Army Reserve, I "opened up" the program for women. The USAR climbed from only 331 women Reservists (exclusive of Nurses) in mid-1971 to more than 14,000 at the end of my tour of duty in 1975. I also strongly supported opening up ROTC to women during that same period.

Cordially,

J. Milnor Roberts
Major General, USAR
Executive Director

JMR:bb