President Gerald R. Ford to Senator James O. Eastland, 11 September 1975

Gerald R. Ford
September 11, 1975

Dear Jim:

Your support of my veto on S. 1849, the six-month extension of the Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act, was deeply appreciated and indicates a strong desire to achieve U.S. self-sufficiency in energy.

I regard your vote as a courageous one because the long-term attainment of energy independence cannot be achieved without some difficult decisions by Congress.

In the long run, it could well be a victory for homeowners who use heating oil, for drivers who buy gasoline, for factories and utilities which consume fuel to power their machinery, for farmers who use fuel to run their equipment and dry their crops -- for all Americans who depend on energy for their jobs and comfort and prosperity.

I am hopeful that with the veto now sustained, we can work together for a compromise on a phased decontrol plan that will stimulate new sources and supply of energy in the U.S. while not overburdening the American consumer.

Please be assured that I shall continue every effort possible to work with the Congress to achieve a compromise program that we can all support.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

The Honorable James O. Eastland
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
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United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510