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REMARKS BY U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION NEIL E. GOLDSCHMIDT
TO THE SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS DEMOCRATS, FEBRUARY 27, 1980

ILLINOIS--A state with strong and proud Democratic traditions. A home for past Democratic presidential nominees, a strong helper in electing past Democratic presidents, and this year an important part of the team that will re-elect President Carter.

This year, it's vitally important that we re-elect the President. It's important because of what we stand for as Democrats: it's important because of the critical problems that we face as a nation. And it's important because of the outstanding job President Carter's been doing--we need him to give us another term of peace in the world, another term of forthright leadership taking on the really tough issues without regard for the personal political consequences. We need his honesty and his courage and his vision of the greatness that is this country and the promise of it's future.

As Democrats, we choose to stand together as members of a party that believes in the people of this country--and that has always believed in the ability of government to help people make their lives better. That government could be a positive agent. We've believed in the importance of work, of jobs for our people; in the sacred value of independence for our nation in the world and freedom for our people in this land; in the value of education for our young people and contributing lives of dignity for our senior citizens; and we've believed in the enduring values of good homes in sound neighborhoods, in affordable health care, and equal opportunity; the promise of a better tomorrow made possible by our hard work today.

These values are the record of the Presidency of Jimmy Carter.

Four years of peace in the world; a steadfast foreign policy of preparedness, of commitment to human rights, of negotiated settlements.

Four years of hard work for American energy security--we are winning the fight for legislation that will mean energy conservation and the production of new sources of energy--coal and coal gasification, solar,

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geothermal and others. Between 1985-90, coal production in Illinois will more than double; already \$5.6 million have been spent in Illinois in 1978-79 for 17 coal development projects and \$56 million for 14 solar projects.

Four years of job production and economic stimulation--SBA direct loans and loan guarantees in Illinois worth almost \$150 million in 1979; and another \$25 million in 1978 and 1979 from the Department of Agriculture; between 1977 and 1979, the number of people employed in Illinois grew by almost 10 percent.

Four years of increased funding for education.

Four years of agricultural policy that saw farm prices for most commodities increase by at least 14 percent between 1976 and 1979. And the President successfully concluded the Carter round of International Trade Agreements that will mean growing foreign markets for Illinois farm products.

For four years, we've had a President with courage and common sense. A President who cares deeply about the people of this country. A President who's honest. Who tells the truth. A President who's committed to taking on the tough issues, regardless of the political cost.

Now it's up to us.

It's our turn to make a commitment. We can have a President who'll go after unpopular issues; who's willing to fight the special interests and say no to wasteful boondoggle projects; who'll take the risk of entering the Mid-East peace negotiations personally or call for a suspension of grain sales to Russia--just before a critical primary--if it's the right thing to do.

We can have a President who's honest, and hard-working, who's effective in the Congress and in the world--by keeping Jimmy Carter as our President.

But it'll take your work to keep him. We need your help, your time, your voice, your money and your vote.

This election is pivotal in our nation's history. We are at the start of a new decade, but also a new era for our country. We need Jimmy Carter to lead us. We need his courage and his firm, calm leadership, his honesty and his strength. With your help, and the help of Illinois, we can and we will re-elect Jimmy Carter.

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