

H. R. 11450 (HOS)

HARLEY O. STAGGERS  
2D DISTRICT, WEST VIRGINIA

CHAIRMAN:  
COMMITTEE ON  
INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN  
COMMERCE

HOME ADDRESS:  
KEYSER, WEST VIRGINIA

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

December 5, 1973

Miss Pattie H. Chrisman  
307 Winchester Avenue  
Moorefield, West Virginia

Dear Miss Chrisman:

Thank you very much for your letter of recent date. It is indeed good hearing from you again.

I have read your thought-provoking communication with a great deal of interest and am glad to have your comments relative to the present energy crisis. It goes without saying, I share your concern and sentiments.

As you no doubt know, the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee is holding Hearings all this week on the energy bills. We are striving to pass fair and equitable legislation for all.

It is also good to have your views with reference to the Alaskan Pipeline, and I agree with you.

Others have also contacted me and expressed similar sentiments, that the President has taken upon himself powers beyond his Executive prerogative.

Again, thank you for taking the time to write me. It is certainly my desire to continue doing the best possible job for the Second Congressional District, West Virginia and the Nation.

With very best wishes and kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

HARLEY O. STAGGERS



307 Winchester Ave.,  
Moorefield, W. Va. 26836  
November 16, 1973

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The Honorable Harley O. Staggers,

U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Sir;

This is being written to urge you and the Congress to take immediate actions to provide the fuel needed by our people.

I am 82 years old, live alone, and heat with oil. Last week after the President's address, I set my thermostat back to 65, and I am cold, and fear that lack of heat will lead to illness. Millions of other American are in the same situation.

The Alaska pipeline should have been built years ago, so that it would now be in operation.

Congress should enact immediately legislation which will provide great incentives to the oil companies to drill and equip new sources of supply within our country. We need fuel now. In three, five or seven years we all may be dead. For years restrictive laws have prevented the companies from developing new sources of oil supply.

Laws should be passed immediately which will put a stop to the exporting of oil, which, I am told, is increasing instead of diminishing. And plans should be made to import oil from Siberia, where the news reporter says Russia has plenty of oil and is ready to sell it to us.

Ordinary citizens are asked to save gas, but we are told that every time the President goes to his homes in Florida and California, he uses 80,000 gallons of gas, and that his trips to Camp David require 30,000 gallons, which is enough to last one ordinary citizen for several years. He goes to one of these places every week. All of them should be closed and his airplanes grounded. The taxpayers furnish a home for the President and he ought to stay in it. If he needs exercise, as he claims, he can get it by walking through the White House several times, as hospital patients get exercise by walking through the halls. And if he needs a quiet place to be alone and think, there is surely one room in the White House where he could go and be alone.

My information is that the taxpayers pay for every cake of soap and every roll of toilet paper which is used in the White House. This is wrong. We furnish the President a home and pay him a good salary, and he should pay all of his own living expenses. Not one penny of the taxpayers' money should have been spent to furnish, beautify and protect the President's homes in California and Florida. They are his private property.

Governmental waste is what makes our taxes so high.

I have no information as to the use of oil or other wasteful practices by other government officials, but every one of them should practice economy before they ask the rest of us to do it.

The trips to the moon and putting sky-labs in space require a tremendous amount of fuel. This would be all right if fuel was plentiful, but under present circumstances, all such programs ought to be cancelled.

I live in a small town which has no public transportation. I do not have a car, and can only get in or out of town when relatives or friends are kind enough to take me. I have to go to another town for the services of a dentist, and have no physician anywhere. If I should get sick, I would have to go out of town to try to obtain medical help. If gasoline and fuel oil are rationed, it will produce great hardships, especially for senior citizens who need heat and transportation.

Why did Congress ever let our country get into such a situation? The physical health and welfare of every American citizen, and the prosperity of the nation depend, either directly or indirectly upon a plentiful supply of fuel.

Hoping that you will do all in your power to remedy these conditions,

Sincerely,

Pattie H. Chrisman

(Miss Pattie H. Chrisman)