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On behalf of several CIA wives, I wish to thank you for your 29 Nov 1981 recent letter responding to my request to provide annuity and survivor benefits--similar to those established by the Foreign Service Act of 1981 -- to the dependent spouses of CIA officers. We are grateful for your interest in this matter.

We are hopeful that these benefits will be supplied not only to dependents divorced or widowed in the future but also eventually to wives already in this status. Many of the latter served abroad prior to the 1972 legislation that discontinued requirements for their cooperation in assignments related to their spouses' government service. As my letter indicated, circumstances are difficult for these women now; with/old age and inflation, they can only become worse over time.

We believe that enactment of legislation to provide financial security for these deserving women will benefit the CIA mission: Possible breaches of security in soliciting welfare assistance will be avoided. Since some wives now live abroad, this hazard could be substantial. And CIA recruitment, we believe, will be enhanced by definite commitments to the "other half" of career couples.

We wish to express our gratitude and appreciation for your continued interest and support in this matter. Should you or members of your staff wish to speak with women interested in this matter, we should be happy to talk with you.

**STAT** 

- advised on regular

Marjorie S. Holt, House of Representatives, Maryland

To be Sent To:

Patricia Shroeder, House of Representatives, Illinois

Patricia Shroeder, House of Representatives, Colorado

Edward P. Boland, Chairman, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence,

House of Representatives, Massachusetts

Michael D. Barnes, House of Representatives, Maryland

Daniel K. Inouye, Select Committee on Intelligence, Senate