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

HENRY A. WAXMAN
24TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health
and the Environment
Subcommittee on Telecommunications,
Consumer Protection, and Finance
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Consumer and Monetary Affairs
Subcommittee on Legislation
and National Security
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING
Subcommittee on
Retirement Income
and Employment

March 1984

Dear Friend:

I was delighted with the enormous number of responses to our questionnaire. I should like to comment on three issues that I consider especially important.

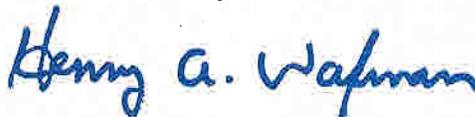
I strongly feel that both the United States and Israel ought to withdraw from Lebanon at the earliest possible moment. The current situation is doing both countries great harm.

Your questionnaires indicated widespread fear over the future of Medicare. Unfortunately, this fear is warranted. I will continue to fight for the money needed to protect and improve this vital program.

As a lifetime resident of Los Angeles, I was encouraged to see that most constituents share my enthusiasm for the Metro Rail subway system. We are finally on the threshold of clean, reliable, public transportation!

I hope you find the questionnaire results interesting. Please feel free to write me at any time. I greatly value hearing from constituents, whether their comments are supportive or critical.

Sincerely,



HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress

Results of Congressman Waxman's Questionnaire

February 1984

National Defense

1. Congress must soon decide whether to approve \$23 billion for construction of the **MX Missile**. What is your view on this subject?
 - 55% A) We don't need the MX. Its construction will only set off another round in the dangerous, wasteful, and destructive nuclear arms race.
 - 24% B) I agree with the Congressmen and Senators who support the construction of the MX as a means to encourage the Reagan Administration to enter into serious arms control negotiations with the Soviets.
 - 21% C) We need to build and deploy the MX before we can even think about arms reductions. The Soviets are already far ahead of us in military strength.
2. Another important defense program before Congress is the **B-1 Bomber**. Do you support its construction?
 - 44% A) Yes. We need a new manned bomber to replace our obsolete B-52's. It is unfair to ask our pilots to fly planes that were designed more than 30 years ago.
 - 56% B) No. The B-1 is a waste of money. We need more spending on health and education, and less on arms.
3. Earlier this year the House of Representatives passed a resolution supporting a verifiable **bilateral freeze** on construction, testing and deployment of **nuclear weapons**. A similar resolution is currently before a Senate Committee. What is your view on the freeze?
 - 54% A) We must end the arms race now! A bilateral freeze would be the first step in accomplishing this goal.
 - 32% B) A freeze would only lock the U.S. into a position of inferiority to the Soviets. It is a threat to our national security.
 - 14% C) Although the freeze is a good idea, it doesn't go far enough. We must stop building new nuclear weapons regardless of what the Soviets do.

Foreign Policy

4. The Administration is expected to ask Congress for an increase in **U.S. Aid for El Salvador** in the coming weeks. What is your view on this subject?
 - 20% A) If we allow El Salvador to fall into the hands of the Communists, other countries in the region will soon follow. We must do whatever is necessary to prevent a Communist victory in Central America — including direct U.S. military intervention if that is necessary.
 - 52% B) Current U.S. policy is misguided and ignores the real reason for the unrest in the region — poverty and political repression. If we do not change our policies in Central America and provide economic assistance rather than military aid, we risk becoming involved in another Vietnam.
 - 28% C) The United States cannot be the world's policeman. We should get out of Central America and let the Central Americans run their own affairs.

5. What is your opinion of the actions taken by President Reagan after the Soviet Union shot down the **Korean Air Lines 747** with 269 people aboard, including a U.S. Congressman?
- 54% A) The President handled the situation in a responsible and statesman-like manner. While the incident was horrible, it is important not to overreact. We must work together with our allies on any sanctions against the Soviets.
 - 23% B) The President was not tough enough on the Russians. They murdered 269 innocent people. We should have taken additional actions, including a trade embargo, expulsion of Soviet diplomats and withdrawal from current arms control negotiations.
 - 23% C) Far too much was made of this incident. This horrible tragedy only serves to emphasize the importance of efforts to reduce tensions between our two nations, conclude a comprehensive arms control agreement, and eliminate the climate of confrontation which now exists.
6. Do you believe the U.S. should withdraw the **Marines** from **Lebanon** following the recent escalation of fighting and the deaths of U.S. servicemen?
- 39% A) No. U.S. withdrawal would result in an escalation of the fighting, increase Soviet and Syrian influence in the region, and might lead to another war between Israel and the Arabs.
 - 61% B) We must withdraw. We should not get caught in the middle of Lebanon's endless internal feuds.
7. Which statement comes closest to your own view of the job President Reagan has done on problems in the **Middle East**.
- 32% A) President Reagan's policies in the Middle East have worked out very well. He has done a good job of handling a very difficult problem.
 - 19% B) The Reagan Administration leans too far in favor of Israel. America would be better served if our government paid more attention to the Arab nations.
 - 49% C) As our only proven ally and the only democracy in the Middle East, Israel is crucial to our own national security. The Reagan Administration has not given Israel the full support she deserves.

Domestic Issues

8. Which of the following statements comes closest to your own feelings about the recent **resignation of former Secretary of the Interior James Watt**?
- 14% A) James Watt did an outstanding job as Secretary of the Interior. The media made a mountain out of a molehill in criticizing some of his statements. We have lost a good man.
 - 23% B) Mr. Watt's policies were basically sound. However, his public statements often showed poor judgment. On balance, I am glad he resigned. I hope his successor follows his policies.
 - 63% C) Mr. Watt should have never been appointed in the first place. His policies did undeniable damage to the environment. His public statements were shocking coming from a Cabinet member. I hope his successor will reverse all of Mr. Watt's ill-conceived policies.
9. The idea has been expressed that it would be desirable to have a **woman** run for **Vice President**. What do you think of this idea?
- 18% A) It would be great to have a woman Vice President. It would pave the way for a woman President and would help women in every walk of life win equal rights.
 - 74% B) The sex of a Vice Presidential candidate is totally irrelevant. People should be evaluated on their individual abilities and potential — not on the basis of age, sex or race.
 - 8% C) Having a woman Vice Presidential candidate is a bad idea. She would probably pull her party down to defeat. If she won, her success would encourage other women to desert the important traditional roles of wives and mothers.

10. Americans have a variety of views on how good a job the **Medicare** program is doing. Which of the following statements is closest to your feelings?

- 52% A) Medicare benefits should be improved. Those on Medicare are forced to spend too much of their own money on health expenses.
- 35% B) The Medicare program is basically sound. Extra spending would be wasteful; cuts would be unfair.
- 13% C) Much of the Medicare program is a waste of taxpayers' money. Recipients should pay more, and people with high incomes should be dropped from the program entirely.

11. There has been much discussion of the proposed **Metro Rail** subway system. Which view is closest to your own?

- 24% A) A subway is impractical in Los Angeles. The money would be better spent on widening streets and improving bus service.
- 52% B) A subway system will work out very well in Los Angeles. It will benefit not only those who travel on it, but also those who continue to rely mainly on their own cars. It will reduce smog, help businesses along the route, and make our transportation system equal to that of any city.
- 24% C) I have not heard enough about the proposed Metro Rail system to have an opinion.

12. The Metro Rail system is scheduled to have a station at the Hollywood Bowl. What is your opinion of a **Hollywood Bowl Station**?

- 25% A) It is a good idea. It will make it easier for more people to enjoy concerts at the Hollywood Bowl.
- 75% B) It is a foolish idea. The Hollywood Bowl station is too expensive (approximately \$67,000,000). It would be a waste of money to build a station for limited use during the small part of the year when there are events at the Hollywood Bowl.

13. Many Americans are concerned about the disease **AIDS** (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). Thus far this sickness affects mainly gay men, Haitians and drug users. Which statement is closest to your own opinion?

- 16% A) I do not know enough about it to formulate an intelligent opinion.
- 38% B) As far as I know, government health agencies are doing a good job in treating people who have AIDS and in trying to discover its cause.
- 35% C) Because people who have AIDS tend to be from "unpopular groups", the government has been slow to help them. Many people are using the AIDS crisis as an excuse to discriminate against gays.
- 11% D) Those who get AIDS have themselves to blame. If they would lead healthy and moral lives, they would not have any problems.

14. Do you believe that the **Federal Government** should be **spending** more money, about the same, or less money in the following areas?

	Spend More	Spend Less	Spend About the Same
Defense	23%	37%	40%
Education	65%	26%	9%
Health Care	58%	32%	10%
Jobs Programs	39%	35%	26%
Clean Air	70%	24%	6%
Crime Control	72%	25%	3%

15 During the 1980 Presidential Debates, **President Reagan** asked Americans, "Are you better off today than four years ago?" How would you answer that question today?

21% A) I am much better off today than when President Reagan took office.

43% B) I am doing just about the same as in 1980.

36% C) I am worse off today than when President Reagan took office.

How would you answer this question for the country as a whole?

33% A) Better.

46% B) Worse.

21% C) The same.

If **your** situation has changed, to what extent has the Reagan Administration played a role?

45% A) A great extent.

33% B) A small extent.

22% C) Not at all.

16. All of us rely heavily on the services that the United States **Postal Service** provides. Based on your personal experience in both sending and receiving mail, what would be your overall evaluation of the Postal Service?

34% A) Generally speaking, the Postal Service does a commendable job.

47% B) The Postal Service is uneven. Depending on the area or letter carrier, there is a wide range of service from fairly good to quite poor.

19% C) On the whole, postal service is bad. The mail is often late, letters are lost, and delivery is far too slow.

Is Everyone In Your Household Registered to Vote?

1984 is a Presidential Election year. You owe it to yourself and to your country to exercise your right to vote.

Will someone in your family become 18 years old on June 5, 1984?

Is anyone in your household not registered at his or her **current** address?

Do you have friends or relatives who have just become citizens or just moved here?

If some of your mail is being forwarded from your old address, be sure you are registered to vote where you **now** live.

To receive voter registration forms, simply call my District Office at (213) 651-1040. To register to vote, you need only to complete the simple, postage-paid card and return it to the Registrar of Voters office. To be eligible to vote in the June 5, 1984 Presidential primary, the Registrar must receive your completed form by **May 7, 1984**.

For further information on voter registration, please call the Registrar of Voters at (213) 721-1100.