

Washington Office on Africa
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September 28, 1972

Dear Friends,

With Congress rushing to adjourn, our thoughts and no doubt yours are on the local elections. Will the Congressmen and Senators who come to Washington in January have more progressive views on the struggle for political freedom in Southern Africa than past Congresses? Will they be prepared to vote against unnecessary quota subsidies to South African sugar producers, to repeal the gutting of the United Nations sanctions against Rhodesia by the Byrd Amendment to the profit of two American corporations, and to challenge economic and military aid to Portugal? Will they be prepared to support a bill requiring fair employment practices in South Africa by U. S. corporations if they wish to get government contracts?

The answers to these questions may well depend on whether you will confront the candidates with the issues and press them for a progressive position. If you want to help, we think you might find the enclosed legislative history and voting record a useful tool. Specifically, we suggest the following steps:

1. Write to **all** the candidates in your district asking them what their positions are on specific legislation on issues which create American policy on Southern Africa. State your position.
2. Write letters to editors of local newspapers about the position of the candidates on Southern Africa and why you support the candidate with the stronger position.
3. Attend public meetings and campaign functions of candidates and ask questions about Southern Africa and about specific legislation that was acted on by the Congress last session.
4. Urge other individuals and organizations to make statements to the candidates on Southern Africa; press those who have indifferent records to improve.
5. Work for the election of candidates with good records or stated positions on Southern Africa. Work to defeat those with bad records if there is a candidate with a better position.
6. Write to us at the Washington Office on Africa about what you have been doing and what you have learned about candidates' positions. This information will be invaluable for getting to know new members of Congress next session.

If there is any help we can give from Washington, please contact us. Thanks for your help!

Elyse Lockwood
Christine Root.