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## Letter to Dr. Joan McFadden

Anne Hatch

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### Recommended Citation

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March 6, 1979

Dr. Joan R. McFadden  
Dean, College of Family Life  
Utah State University  
UMC 29

Dear Joan,

Many thanks for your excellent letter to Senator Ron Halverson, Chairman of the Social Services Committee of the Utah Legislature. Your letter was most informative, direct, specific and interesting. I'm sure it was just what the committee representing the Governor's Commission on Women wanted.

It is my understanding that 21 letters, representing many different women's groups, and from all parts of the state, were given to the five members of the Social Services Committee. Unfortunately, the committee voted 3 (Republicans) to 2 (Democrats) to do away with the Status of Women's Commission. The bill now goes to the calendaring committee, and then to the Senate, with the recommendation, of course, from the Social Services Committee.

The arguments used to end the Commission concerned the Commission's supposed involvement in fighting for the ERA, some remarks about the IWY, both the state and Houston meetings, and some comments about the Communists (?!?!). Obviously, some members are very confused about the role of the Governor's Commission.

I'll keep you posted if I hear what happens to the Bill.

Again, thank you for your letter and your concern and interest.

Cordially,

Anne C. Hatch  
Coordinator

ACH/rr

February 26, 1979

Social Services Committee  
c/o Senator Ron Halverson, Chairman  
Utah State Senate  
Capitol Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84104

Dear Senators,

It is my understanding that a bill has been introduced into the Utah State Senate to do away with the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women, Senate Bill #317. This letter is to express the hope that this bill will not be passed, and to let the members of your committee know what a valuable service and asset we consider the Governor's Commission to be for women and men in our state.

The Women's Center at Utah State University has been open almost five years. We provide a center for all women where they may obtain information, assistance, and referral. Over the years we have been able to telephone the Commission at the State Capitol and receive answers, assistance and advice. Several publications of the Commission have been very helpful, including A Guide for Women, a referral directory to assist women in finding a variety of services, including volunteer work. The Newsletter has also been helpful. It includes resources in our state for women, listed activities of community organizations and generally kept us all up to date on events for women.

In addition, the Commission had an excellent speaker's bureau. The women on the Commission, representing both political parties, a variety of ages, religions and races were excellent role models. Several outstanding members of our community and faculty have served on the Commission, including Dean Phyllis Snow, past Dean of the College of Family Life; Dr. Loretta Hale, Head of the Department of Accounting, College of Business; and Dr. Alison Thorne, professor of Economics.

It is my understanding that there are only two states that have no funded Commission on the Status of Women at this time, Utah and Alaska. At a time when women are moving ahead in the areas of education, politics, employment, and business it would indeed be unfortunate and a very real disservice to the women of our state to lose the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women. I urge the members of your committee to carefully review the accomplishments of the Commission and to interview some of its past members. I believe you will agree with me that the Commission is a proud addition to our state government.

Sincerely,

Anne C. Hatch  
Coordinator

ACH/rr

November 9, 1977

USU Status of Women Committee  
c/o Dr. Janice Pearce, Chair  
UMC 70

Dear Friends,

I want to thank all of you so very much for meeting with me last Monday. I can't express to you how much that meeting meant to me. I appreciated you coming, too, on such short notice. Your schedules are so very busy and there are so many demands upon your time that I know it is a real effort to get to any extra meetings.

I appreciate you all listening to me so attentively and seeming so interested. Your insight into what is happening with the Center, your questions about us, and most important, your vision for the future of the Center all made me feel wonderful.

I know you'll have success carrying the ball for us. And even if the administration doesn't greet you with open arms and doesn't concur in your confidence in the Women's Center, at least we at the Center know we have friends and interested professionals concerned about the Center. Your continued support is more important to our enthusiasm, attitudes and planning at the Center than any administrative decision.

I do appreciate you--you certainly gave me a lift.

Fondly,