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Draft of Cleveland, Ohio Remarks by Geraldine Ferraro

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I want to thank Congresswoman Mary ~~R~~ Rose Oakar and all of you= for welcoming me back to Cleveland. When I was here last May to chair a regional hearing of the Democratic Platform Committee, the Greater Cleveland Growth Association gave me a handsome pewter astray.

I want you to know the ashtray is proudly on display in my Congressional office. But I plan to be showing it off in my new office next January 20.

Since Fritz Mondale chose me as his running mate, there has been a new spirit in our country.

Just as when John F. Kennedy beckoned us to a New Frontier, and when two Ohioans -- John Glenn and later Neil Armstrong -- led the way in the exploration of space, people are filled with a new belief that they can make a difference.

Here in Ohio, you've already shown that the people can make a difference. In 1982, you elected a new governor. For Dick Celeste, as for Mario Cuomo in my state of New York, and for Mark White in Texas, women voters and new voters made the difference.

Governor Celeste has shown that he understands what women voters care about. He has the State of Ohio on the move on getting women workers the pay they deserve. It's the pocketbook issues that count you can't feed a family on 59¢ for a dollar's worth of work.

In Congress, I joined with a great leader for women's economic rights, Mary Rose Oakar, in holding hearings on Pay equity. And a ~~X~~ Mondale-Ferraro Administration is going to line up strongly for the principle that women ~~deserve~~ deserve a fair day's pay for a fair day's work.

The message this ticket is taking to the American people is "get involved! You can make a difference!"

How? You have taken the first step today by registering

to vote. The next step is to get out and use that vote in November.

It's been 64 years since women won the right to vote. This year, we are going to use our votes to make a difference in the way this country is run.

When my youngest daughter, Laura, turned 18 in June, I gave her two presents -- a walkman stereo set and a voter registration card. I have to admit, she seemed more excited about the Walkman.

But over the long run, that voter registration card will mean a lot more -- both to her and to our country. Even in this high-tech age, our greatest strength as a country is still the democratic system of government that we have practiced for over 200 years.

So, if you want to make a difference, get out there and vote. Sign yourselves up. Sign up your mothers and fathers, your sons and daughters, your friends and ~~neighborhoods~~ neighbors. And next November, 6, you can make a difference for America.

Thank you.