

AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

1015 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005 • (202) 789-5600

LARRY J. GORDON, M.S., M.P.H., President

April 1, 1981

**The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500**

Dear Mr. President:


The American Public Health Association opposes the nomination of Anne M. Gorsuch as Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. We are distressed about her obvious lack of requisite qualifications for this position. Scientific knowledge, as well as managerial skills, is essential to the position of EPA Administrator.

The affairs of the Environmental Protection Agency directly affect the health and well being of this and future generations. This Agency's mission is to protect and enhance our environment to the fullest extent possible under the laws enacted by Congress. We are concerned that the appointment of Ms. Gorsuch may indicate the Administration's desire to compromise important environmental laws that were enacted after years of careful consideration and debate.

Recent polls continue to indicate that a majority of Americans favor pollution controls, even at a price. Our citizens' concerns would be effectively rejected if EPA were to be administered by one who is clearly not an advocate of environmental health, or by one so lacking in managerial and scientific qualifications. The possible nomination of Ms. Gorsuch suggests that the Administration wants a "fox guarding the chicken house" situation at EPA.

We are confident that this Administration can find a more suitable candidate for Administrator of EPA. The American Public Health Association notes with distinct satisfaction and approval the outstanding qualifications of Dr. John Hernandez, candidate for EPA Deputy Administrator, and suggests that he or other equally qualified candidates should be given further serious consideration for the EPA Administrator position.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry J. Gordon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "L".

Larry J. Gordon, MS, MPH President