



MONROE SWEETLAND • LILLIE M. SWEETLAND

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To the Members of the

CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATION:

In the midst of our concern over the 1968 Presidential candidate and a forward-moving Democratic platform, it is none too early to discuss our Vice-Presidential choice. Three times in this Century our Vice-President has become President, and his choice cannot be left to caprice or mere availability.

We have in the West a new rising star of great potential in Mayor Joseph Alioto of San Francisco. This note is to point up some of the factors which make him a highly appropriate choice for delegates from the Western states at Chicago.

Problems of America's great cities will be foremost in the 1968 campaign; no public official anywhere has more rapidly and effectively come to grips with these issues than the Mayor of San Francisco.

Democratic Presidential probabilities are all from the Midwest and East; Mayor Alioto will give representation to the West against a Republican slate sure to feature a candidate who claims Western roots.

Mayor Alioto has the respect and confidence of all who seek constructive solutions to the ethnic conflicts which wrack our Nation; he has demonstrated his empathy toward all and his ability to lead orderly progress.

Mayor Alioto's business experience over the years gives him familiarity with world trade, not only around the Pacific, but in Europe and Latin America.

Mayor Alioto could provide the Democratic Party with one of the nation's most personable and effective campaigners. He would be a strong right arm to share with the next President the far-flung executive burdens.

While it is an old American axiom that "no one runs for Vice-President", it is also an historic fact that successful nominees for Vice-President do not just happen -- they must be widely advocated and subjected to public discussion. This is as it should be, since the Vice-President should be measured by Presidential standards.

I write you without any clearance, consent or even the knowledge of Mayor Alioto, but after consultation with several of you and others outside California whom I have known to be influential in the six past Democratic Conventions to which I have been an elected delegate from my native Oregon.

Joseph Alioto would honor and strengthen our ticket and he would be well-qualified to serve the Nation as Vice-President or President. Of course I will be interested in your judgment, and if we agree, in your suggestions to advance his nomination at Chicago.

*Monroe Sweetland*

MONROE SWEETLAND

Alternate Delegate, 11th Congressional District