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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

October 8, 1971

Dr. Hector P. Garcia
1315 Bright Street
Cropus Chrsti, Texas 78405

Dear Mr. Garcia:

Thank you for your letter regarding the busing of school children to achieve racial balance.

There is no question that in many areas of this country thousands of children have been denied the fundamental right to a quality education in part because they must attend racially segregated schools. While busing is one technique used to integrate school systems and resolve the problems of a poor learning environment, this technique has led, in many instances, to the additional problems of adaptability and acceptance for all children who are affected by such a plan. Because of these and other problems, I believe there is a consensus that busing is only a temporary expedient.

It is my opinion that priority attention should be given to exploring other measures which would accomplish school desegregation while ensuring that all children have the opportunity to receive a sound education. In considering this matter, we should pay closest attention to those measures which seem best capable of accomplishing both these goals. Recently, the Senate passed S. 1557, the Emergency School Aid and Quality Integrated Education Act of 1971, which would provide monies for technical assistance and planning by local school districts to review alternate measures and their possible effects. This bill is currently under consideration by the House Education and Labor Committee.

As Chairman of the Labor and Public Welfare Committee, I shall continue my efforts to see that quality education is made available for all our children.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Harrison A. Williams, Jr.
Chairman

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