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Hon. Lloyd Bentsen  
United States Senator  
240 Old Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Bentsen:

I am writing to you in connection with the consideration being given to the nomination of J. A. ("Tony") Canales as the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas. I strongly urge you to support this appointment.

I have known Mr. Canales for many years both as a fellow attorney and through numerous political activities. I am personally familiar with his legal ability and can unhesitatingly say that he is a lawyer of very high quality. However, by now you have surely received from others ample confirmation of his legal skill as well as of his excellent character and talents as a political leader. Accordingly, I would like to address myself to another matter.

I have read in the local newspaper that a group of Republican ladies is opposing his nomination because in their opinion "he would not be equally fair to everybody." To be charitable, I would suggest that that opinion may be based upon a misunderstanding of very brief statements of Mr. Canales' views as reported in the local press. My view of the way in which he deals with others has been formed in part by some personal experience in being opposed by Mr. Canales. While he and I have almost always been on the same side of political issues, there have been occasions on which we found ourselves on opposite sides of the fence. The most succinct way in which I can sum up the experience of dealing with him as an adversary is that he fights hard, but he fights fair. Based both on this personal experience and my knowledge of his personality and character generally, I have no doubt whatever that his sense of justice and appreciation of the obligations of public office are highly appropriate to the job. I feel sure that he would serve as United States Attorney in an even-handed manner and with distinction.

Sincerely yours,

Harvey Grossman

/jak

bcc: Mr. J. A. Canales  
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