

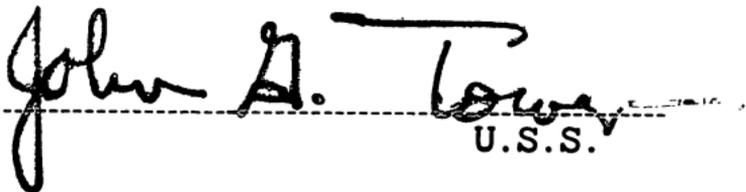
# United States Senate

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## MEMORANDUM

The attached letter is sent for  
your information.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John A. Tower", is written over a horizontal dashed line. The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the "U.S.S." text.

U.S.S.

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

C O P Y

November 2, 1977

C O P Y

Honorable Graciela (Grace) Olivarez  
Director  
Community Services Administration  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Doctor Olivarez:

I am writing to express my concern over the decision to terminate funding for the LULAC National Educational Service Centers and also to request that it be reversed.

As you know, the educational needs of Hispanic Americans, particularly Americans of Mexican ancestry, are indeed unique and often chronic. LULAC has directed its organizational resources and commitment to the task of increasing the numbers of Hispanic Americans, and other educationally disadvantaged youth, in our many colleges and universities. LULAC has done this with the help and support of the Community Services Administration through funding for LNESEC, since 1973.

CSA funding for LNESEC initially was provided under a pilot and demonstration program. Since 1975, however, LNESEC has been assisted under Section 234 of the agency's legislation. Its record of success has been good; its impact and influence upon the Hispanic American community, in particular the college age youth who must be its leaders of tomorrow, has been significant.

I have been very pleased and honored to serve on the advisory board of another LULAC sponsored education-directed effort, the LULAC National Scholarship Fund for Americans of Spanish Origin. I have directly participated in this LULAC effort to raise funds to be used for scholarship purposes.

It is for these reasons that I urge you to reconsider the decision by CSA on this LULAC funding. I hope you will find it possible to do so. At the same time, however, I want you to know that I consider the matter sufficiently urgent to the point that I am also bringing my concern to the attention of the President.

Sincerely,

  
John Tower

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 3, 1977

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I respectfully urge your immediate review of a recent Community Services Administration decision to discontinue vital funding for an essential higher education recruitment and assistance program for Hispanic American youth.

The CSA recently informed the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) that it intended to terminate funding of the organization's National Educational Service Centers (LNESEC). LNESEC was established four years ago by LULAC to increase the numbers of Hispanic Americans in our colleges and universities.

CSA initially funded LNESEC in 1973 as a pilot and demonstration program. It was aimed at the educationally disadvantaged, with special emphasis on the Hispanic American. Since 1975, however, CSA has funded LNESEC under Section 234 of its legislation.

LULAC members and supporters have unselfishly raised and awarded scholarships to deserving youth through the years, beginning with its inception as an organization in 1929. Those fund raising efforts, like previous CSA funding for LNESEC, have clearly been a wise and necessary investment in the maximum development of our invaluable human resources. Hispanic Americans have benefited directly from this LULAC dedication to education; society in general has been better served by these educational accomplishments.

Education knows no politics, and I am sure you share my concern that countless numbers of Hispanic Americans may view termination of LNESEC funding as further evidence of the impersonal attitude of the Federal bureaucracy toward their valid needs. I join with LULAC, therefore, in asking that this decision be reversed.

Sincerely,

  
John Tower

FROM THE OFFICE OF  
SENATOR JOHN TOWER OF TEXAS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, November 3, 1977

WASHINGTON--Senator John Tower (R-Tex) called on President Carter in a personal letter today to review a recent Community Services Administration (CSA) decision to cut off funds for the National Educational Service Centers (LNESEC) of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

The CSA recently informed LULAC that it intended to end funding for the LNESEC effective December 1, 1977. The LNESEC was established in 1973 with CSA funding assistance to deal with the unique and chronic problems inherent in the Hispanic American community by actively recruiting Hispanic American youth for colleges and universities. In addition, the organization has provided information to local communities on ways to reach Hispanics and has aided in identifying these youths so they might obtain assistance in enrolling in schools.

In his letter to the President Tower said, "LULAC members and supporters have unselfishly raised and awarded scholarships to deserving youth through the years, beginning with its inception as an organization in 1929. Those funding efforts, like previous CSA funding for LNESEC, have clearly been a wise and necessary investment in the maximum development of our invaluable human resources."

There are 11 Centers around the country with two in Texas at Houston and Corpus Christi.

Tower, who has been closely involved with LULAC activities, said in an earlier letter to CSA Director Graciela (Grace) Olivarez, "I have been very pleased and honored to serve on the advisory board of another LULAC sponsored education-directed effort, the LULAC National Scholarship Fund for Americans of Spanish Origin. I have directly participated in this LULAC effort to raise funds to be used for scholarship purposes. It is for these reasons that I urge you to reconsider the decision by CSA on this LULAC funding."

Tower said that he had been informed that in spite of various meetings between LULAC representatives and the CSA Director and staff, the CSA position was firm in terminating funding support for LNESEC. If no alternative source of money is found, CSA funding would be completely phased out by February 28, 1978.

Tower concluded in his letter to Carter, "Education knows no politics, and I am sure you share my concern that countless numbers of Hispanic Americans may view termination of LNESEC funding as further evidence of the impersonal attitude of the Federal bureaucracy toward their valid needs. I join LULAC, therefore, in asking that this decision be reversed."

The senior Texas senator said that education is essential to all Americans but is especially critical to Americans of Hispanic heritage who are striving to become fully participating citizens.

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