January 29, 1963

Hon. Ralph Yarborough U.S. Senate Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

I certainly enjoyed the visit with you after the Houston Dinner. I had not written to you because I was waiting for the data on the Brazero Bill which you told me you would mail me.

Let me repeat what I said to you in Houston. As you well know, I personally don't need any explanation about your vote on the Brazero Bill or the Judgeship appointment. This to me is in the past, and my dedication to you as a symbol of liberalism in Texas has not been lost...shaken a little, yes, but not lost. Let me say that I firmly believe that with a complete victory of liberalism in Texas, the problems of the little people will be solved; therefore, the Mejicano's problems will be solved, and my twenty years of fighting for the Mejicano will be recompensed. I am a liberal Democrat first and a Mejicano second!

Still, I am concerned about your future political campaign, because there is a number of our Mexican-American leadership in Texas who are Mejicanos first and loyal Democrats second. These are the ones that I have been trying to make understand these things. As you probably know, there is a tremendous effort being made by the opposition to corral the emerging "sleeping Giant", and it is up to you, me, and others like us, to help him get his bearings and sort of guide him in the right direction. If we fail, this giant will crush us all. Frankly, Senator, there is some fence mending you must do between now and 1964.

Let me say that your hiring a Negro in your secretarial staff is a step in the right direction. Why not a qualified Spanish named American also? Other minor appointments of Spanish named persons, etc. will certainly help to correct your image, at least to those who look for the immediate results rather than the long range good. As for me, it will give me a weapon to continue the fight for your cause which I consider my own.

In closing, my wife and I would like to thank you for the regular receipt of your newsletter, "Washington Report". However, you have our name in duplicate with the wrong address in both. I am enclosing copies of same here so that your staff might correct this.

Sincerely yours,

Gus Gonzales

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