

Legislature - 1959

January 29, 1959

Hon. James S. Bates
House Chamber
Capital Building
Austin, Texas

Dear Jim:

I have been intending to write to you for at least a week but had not found the time to do so. I am now writing in my personal behalf and without being paid by anybody to do so but solely out of my concern as a citizen with the action of the Legislative Budget Board in failing to recommend any appropriation for the Texas Council on Migrant Labor. I see by the newspapers that you are now on the appropriations committee in the House, and I certainly hope that you and your committee will realize the need that there is for continuing the work of that Council.

According to press reports the Governor included in his own recommended budget a very modest sum for this Council. I say modest in view of the fact that this is the only agency in our state government that is working actively on the problems of migrant labor which as you know affects thousands and thousands of our people in South Texas. It is a shame indeed that so little attention is paid to the needs of these people whereas the groups that employ them seem to be able to dip into tax revenues almost at will to get all types of relief programs in years of drouth or for the purpose of improving their soil, guaranteeing a base price for their products, or curtailing competition from other areas by imposing inspection and other requirements.

If you can see your way clear, I trust that you will go along with the appropriation for the Council which has been recommended by the

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Governor and that you can prevail among other members of your committee and of the Legislature to do likewise.

Sincerely yours,

Edidar, Jr.

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