

P A S O
POLITICAL ASSOCIATION OF SPANISH-SPEAKING ORGANIZATIONS
of TEXAS

Roy Elizondo, State Chairman
David Ortiz, Editor

August 28, 1967

1631 Latexo St.
Houston, Texas
Ov. 2-3022 - Ox. 5-5767

1 MILLION MEXICAN-AMERICAN REGISTERED VOTERS FOR '68.

The State PASO Convention in Austin, was one of the best we have ever seen, you will agree. Our thanks to the hard work of Travis County and our State Chairman, Roy Elizondo, this convention was a success.

It is time for us to show what PASO is going to do about registering 1 million mexican-american voters.

State Chairman Roy Elizondo has appointed me State Registration Chairman, and I am appointing YOU as Voter Registration Team!.

I need your help to carry out this program. Soon I will be calling on you, so, please help me half way, I must know how your County registers. Send this along with your ideas to me, so that I can make plans to visit your County soon!.

NOVEMBER 5TH WORK SHOP

Harris County PASO will be celebrating their 6th Anniversary Bar-B-Que, with refreshments and an old fashioned political rally. You are cordially invited to attend. Come to Houston and participate in a Voter Registration Work Shop! Let us get together and report on what we have done up to this point. We can help each other at this PASO Work Shop.

SEPTEMBER 9th WORK SHOP

PASO has been invited along with 15 other liberal organizations to attend a meeting in Austin, Texas to map out a State wide registration program. You must support this meeting. Plans are being made to register 5 million liberal registered voters in the State of Texas. All PASO Regional Chairmen, and County Chairmen are required to attend; bring your friends. Terrace Motel - Congress Ave., Austin, Texas, September 9th, at 10:00 a.m. PASO must be represented!.

LA MARCHA! VIVA LA CAUSA!

You are urged by the State PASO Chairman, Roy Elizondo to join the march on Labor Day. The following is the schedule:

Aug. 3,	Rally - New Braunfels	8:00 a.m.
Sept. 1,	Leave New Braunfels for SanMarcos	7:00 a.m.
Sept. 2,	Leave SanMarcos for Buda	7:00 a.m.
Sept. 3,	Leave Buda for St. Edwards Univ.	7:00 a.m.
Sept. 4,	Leave Univ. for Capitol steps	8:00 a.m.
	Arrive at Capitol steps	12:00 noon

THEME: PROGRESS, NOT POVERTY AND \$ 1.25 plus interes!

PASO, LULAC, G.I. FORUM, Organized Labor and other Mexican-American Organizations will attend the "MARCHA" together! VIVA LA RAZA! - VIVA LA JUSTICIA!.....

61287

Labor Strongly Backs Latin Rights Movement

VIVA PASO

Carr confused on Paso convention events

From Roy Elizondo, president, Political Assn., of Spanish-Speaking organizations of Texas, 1631 Latexo.

It was indeed unfortunate that former Atty. Gen. Waggoner Carr was not properly informed of the content of Father Antonio Gonzalez's speech to the Paso convention before Carr criticized it. In fact, the major thrust of the speech was that violence is not an answer to the problems of our minorities.

As the state chairman of Paso, I feel compelled to ask Mr. Carr to refrain from making statements which tend to imply that the Mexican-Americans in Texas are prepared to riot. Such was not the intent of Father Gonzalez and such was not the intent of the convention.

I was at the head table during the time that Father Gonzalez spoke. Neither I nor any of the other people at that table got the impression that he was inciting a riot.

We are aware that Mr. Carr is once again contemplating running for public office. We realize that he may be angry at the Mexican-Americans in the state for opposing him after he took a stand with Gov. Connally in the Valley march to Austin. We realize that Father Gonzalez did make a passing remark to the effect that Paso helped bring about Carr's defeat in the 1966 campaign.

The Paso convention passed a number of constructive resolutions which represent the collective opinions of the organization. Even the resolution urging the abolishment of the Texas Rangers, against whom we have many grievances, did not ask for other than legislative action.

The general body of the convention clearly expressed itself as strongly in favor of means which are within the constitutional limits of freedom. It condemned violence in the streets while deploring the conditions of misery which prevail in so many of our urban and rural slums.

Austin — The Political Assn. of Spanish-Speaking Organizations (Paso) has ended its state convention on a note of militant opposition to a fourth term for Gov. John Connally.

Approximately 100 voting delegates Sunday lustily cheered adoption of a strongly-worded resolution condemning Connally's administration.

They also applauded resolutions urging abolishment of the Texas Rangers because of alleged violation of civil rights by the group, and encouraging registration of 1 million Mexican-Americans to vote next year.

Show Independence

Former Paso state chairman Albert Pena of San Antonio, a Bexar County Commissioner, exhorted Mexican-American voters to demonstrate their independence of either major political party.

Viewpoints



Father Gonzalez urged that Mexican Americans and Negroes unite their political strength for the 1968 elections.

The priest's call for a political coalition of minority groups

Father Gonzalez cautioned that "it is certainly not necessary to resort to the techniques of violence, of revolution."

"To succumb to the counsels of despondency and despair would be a fatal mistake," Gonzalez added.

PAGE 2, SECTION 4

LULAC Paso Against Fourth Term For Connally

"I tell the president of the United States, and I tell the governor of Texas, if you do not listen to us in 1967, we are not going to listen to you in 1968," Pena said in a passionate appeal for political action to improve the lot of Mexican-Americans.

Paso approved a resolution declaring the organization to be "completely uncommitted to either the Democratic or Republican Party."

Roy Elizondo of Houston was reelected state chairman, and Houston was chosen the site for Paso's 1968 convention.

The resolution opposing a fourth term for Connally said Paso "recognizes that Gov. John Connally has from the very beginning of his administration shown a total disregard and lack of interest of the real needs of the Mexican-American in the State of Texas in his confrontation of the Valley farm workers march last year."

Paso charged that Connally was responsible for "sending of the Rangers to Rio Grande City to serve as strike-breaking thugs for infringing on the rights of South Texas citizens' freedom of speech and freedom of assembly and thereby denying the civil rights of American citizens."

"Gov. John Connally has defrauded the people of Texas by running for a third term for governor and further not making his position clear on running for a fourth term that would aggravate the fraud on the citizens of Texas," the resolution said.

Paso went on record as "vigorously and emphatically opposing the renomination of John Connally for governor."

The resolution for disbandment of the Rangers said the

Rep. Bob Eckhardt of Houston was the main speaker Sunday.

He said he deplors the violence which has hit several of the nation's cities, but added that he recognizes "the spirit of the American citizen is something we have a hard time controlling."

"The ignition point that may set off trouble is usually at the point where police authority meets the crowd — the mob," Eckhardt said.

He advocated federal aid programs for training of more professional local police forces, to equip them with diplomacy, efficiency and ability to control situations by means other than billy clubs.

Eckhardt urged expansion of job opportunities through public works programs.

He urged provision of food for the hungry through more effective surplus commodity and food stamp programs, and rent supplements to dilute the concentration of poverty families' in slum areas.

Mrs. Fina Gonzales of Austin was elected vice-chairman of Paso; John Castillo Sr. of Houston, recording secretary; and Bob Sanchez of McAllen, legal adviser.

Father Antonio Gonzalez of Galveston were elected co-chaplains. They were leaders of the Valley farm workers march to Austin a year ago.

Plaques were presented Dr. Hector P. Garcia of Corpus Christi, Dr. George I. Sanchez of the University of Texas Philosophy Department, and Pena.

AUSTIN—Opposition to Gov John Connally, denunciation of the Texas Rangers and the need for Mexican-Americans to build up their political power received about equal attention at the state convention of PASO (Political Association of Spanish-speaking Organizations) here Saturday.

Republicans are making a strong bid for the Mexican-American vote as was obvious

getting a decent wage, Dr George L. Sanchez of the University of Texas. "We (Mexican-Americans) are not the immigrants here, we are in our traditional territory. It is the Anglos who are the immigrants. If Gov Connally and the others don't like it here, let them go back where they came from."

REP LAURO CRUZ of Houston was applauded vigorously when he was presented as the

man who introduced the bill in the last Legislature to abolish the Texas Rangers.

"We are going to have a group in 1968 known as the mad Mexican - Americans," Cruz told the delegates. "We want our people in the councils of government."

Although 1967 is an off year politically, much of the emphasis of the convention was on preparing for the campaigns of next year. PASO's goal is to register one million

Mexican-American voters in Texas in 1968.

Several speakers stressed that the Mexican - American can no longer be counted on to docilely vote the Democratic ticket.

The convention will end Sunday with the adoption of resolutions and the election of officers. Roy Elizondo of Houston is expected to be reelected state chairman.

Interest Cut Seen Under Credit Code

Austin — The state treasury loan commission... In a democracy it is far better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.

THE HOUSTON POST SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 1967 SECTION 4, PAGE 15