



JOHN TOWER
... 'appalled'

Carter rapped

Tower supports program for the Spanish-speaking

Special to the Express
WASHINGTON — Sen. John Tower, R-Texas, Monday said he was "appalled" at the Carter administration's treatment of Spanish-speaking Americans.

Tower directed his remarks to Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) Secretary Joseph Califano because of plans to merge HEW's Spanish-Speaking Program with another office.

"This unjust crippling of the HEW Spanish-Speaking Program can be prevented, and I urge you to take whatever steps are necessary to accomplish it," Tower said in a letter to Califano.

"I am appalled over what appears to be an increasing insensitivity toward the Hispanic-American community by this administration.

"I am deeply concerned that the important mission of the Spanish-Speaking Program office within HEW will be immediately and adversely

affected if the EEO Study Group recommendations that have been presented to you are approved."

Tower said the recommendation would, in effect, downgrade two existing offices — the Spanish-Speaking

Program and the Federal Women's Program.

Tower said the recommendations were made even though the study group's own report specifically stated: "Women and minorities are not

represented proportionately across job series" and "Hispanics are not well represented."

The senator said the report further cited that "Since 1974, the department has made virtually no progress in

improving the representation of hispanics."

Only 3 percent of HEW employees are Hispanic, and most of those are in the Social Security Administration, Tower said.

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NOSOTROS CON TOWER — Sen. John Tower, right, and Pete Diaz Jr., statewide chairman of the Nosotros Con Tower campaign, discuss the mobile Tower headquarters to tour the Valley

during the Senator's campaign for re-election. (Star photo by Betty Shepard).