



December 18, 1979

The Honorable Bill Clayton
Speaker of the House
State Capitol
Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Speaker:

As we have previously discussed, a need exists to appoint one or more members of the Mexican-American delegation to serve as ex officio members of the Regions, Compacts, and Districts Committee and participate with the committee in interim activities related to the census and reapportionment.

The Committee will meet again in January to plan a series of Census Awareness forums to be held around the state prior to Census Day. Appointment of the ex officio members in time to participate in that meeting would be helpful.

Also, attached you will find a draft letter I propose you consider sending to Secretary of State George Strake and Attorney General Mark White, requesting that they officially assign a staff member to monitor our committee's activities.

While we have informally contacted both these offices regarding oversight of our committee activities regarding the census and reapportionment, the involvement these offices will have in any Justice Department or judicial review of our process mandates, in my opinion, that we formally request their oversight.

I look forward to visiting with you soon on these matters.

Sincerely,

Tim Von Dohlen

TVD/df

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—May 20, 1980

AUSTIN—House Speaker Bill Clayton said Tuesday he is broadening the base of the House Committee on Regions, Compacts and Districts by naming two Mexican-American representatives to the committee.

Rep. Hector Uribe of Brownsville and Rep. Hugo Berlanga of Corpus Christi will be involved in the committee's interim activities and preparations for the 67th legislative session in 1981.

The committee has been charged by the Speaker to prepare a comprehensive study of legislative and congressional redistricting following the 1980 Census, including analysis of Census data available prior to next session.

"There is no doubt that the input provided by this committee to the next Legislature will have a great impact on redistricting. The inclusion of Mexican-American representatives is imperative to obtain a balance because every segment of the population needs to be represented," Clayton said.

There was no Mexican-American representation on the committee prior to Clayton's action.

Berlanga is serving his second term in the Legislature. During the 66th session he was vice chairman for appropriative matters of the Elections Committee and served on the Ways and Means Committee. Clayton has also appointed him to the Texas 1986 Sesquicentennial Commission.

Uribe serves on the Health Services and Judiciary committees. During the interim he is assisting on a subcommittee study of the nursing shortage in Texas and a study by a Public Education subcommittee on bilingual education. Clayton also named Uribe to the Select Committee on Urban Issues last September.