

June 12, 1961

Honorable James Wright
U. S. Congressman
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Wright:

I received your letter about the end of April, and naturally, I was very sorry that you were not in the run-off. Many people wonder what happened. Of course, I want to be frank with you. I sincerely believed that Sen. Henry Gonzales did not have a chance to win the race. Personally, I tried to discourage him from running as you well know, but I was unsuccessful.

As to the run-off, the truth of the matter is that without the support of the Latin American people of the state, Blakely lost the race. I could not support either candidate because of their complete opposition to President Kennedy's program. I did not write a letter, make a telephone call or a speech. Our state and national political organization called PASO, Political Association for Spanish Speaking Organizations, took no action whatsoever for the same reasons. As a result, there were over 60 thousand of our people who did not vote in this election. However, Blakely did not personally solicit our support anyway.

I do not wish to appear presumptuous, but if telephone calls, radio broadcasts, even as late as two days before the election, would have meant over 20,000 additional votes in this region for Blakely. This election should serve notice on our democratic leadership that the Latins must be given recognition. We want them to hire administrative assistants and secretaries of our origin. We believe sincerely that every Congressman and Senator in Washington should have administrative assistant and secretaries of Latin American origin. We believe that in their districts they should help us get appointments for important positions in preceints, counties, and district levels. If the Democratic Party is to survive, it should give us the proper recognition. It is about time that the Democratic Party in the State Of Texas recognized the serious problem both in the state and national level.

It is my sincere opinion for instance, that Vice-President Lyndon Johnson should have taken more than one delegate of Mexican origin to the National Convention. In my opinion, he took Albert Pena for the simple reason that Mr. Pena threaten to walk out. I am sure that you understand our position. I believe that of all of the people in the State of Texas, you and Senator Yarborough are the only ones who can lead the Democratic Party out of the present chaos. We are willing to sit down and talk the situation over with everyone, but we must ask for recognition. I believe that President Kennedy and Bob Kennedy will give us the proper recognition and I hope to get it from our State Leaders also.

The whole picture of 1964 will depend on the Governor's election in 1962. Therefore, the earlier we can all get together and discuss the possibility, the better it will be for all of us. I predicted Tower's victory and I say again that in 1962, there will be a Republican governor in the State of Texas unless the Democratic Leaders give us the proper recognition and appointments. If this happens in 1962, the Democratic Party can count off the State of Texas in 1964. I am sincere in stating that Lyndon Johnson cannot save the state in 1964 unless the proper elements get behind you and Yarborough. I am not saying this to hurt Lyndon Johnson's feelings, but merely as a fact and I am sure that you will see it as such. In the meanwhile, receive our kindest regards and I hope to have the honor of seeing you again very soon.

Our people here were greatly impressed with you and we look forward to a visit with you in the future. If you ever come down here, I just want to sit down with you and discuss this thing in detail. It is a serious situation, but the people who would get hurt the most will be the office holders in the State of Texas. We can help them, but they must help us.

Hoping to hear from you very soon, I remain

Fraternally yours,

Hector P. Garcia, MD

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