

The Attorney General of Texas

October 14, 1980

Dear Mr. President:

In light of your having signed the Cuban Relief Act, as Attorney General of Texas I want to urge you to give the same consideration to the needs of the Mexican nationals and their children who are in this nation.

Under the new bill, school districts will receive grants for the education of Cuban and Haitian refugee children and adults, as well as some grants for Indochinese children, and State and local governments will be reimbursed for social service costs for resettlement of the refugees. Therefore, I strongly feel that school districts and State and local governments should receive reimbursement for the education of the children of Mexican nationals working here in the United States.

The recent ruling ordering Texas schools to allow the children of undocumented workers to enter as tuitionfree students will have considerable impact upon our State. Unlike the attitudes and acts of expression toward our nation by Iranian students in this country, the Mexican national is primarily here for the purpose of improving himself and his family economically. All Americans share a common concern for political refugees no matter where they come from. However, Mexican nationals have contributed to our country's economy and to its history and traditions at least as long as Cubans, Haitians, Indochinese and Iranians. It is extremely unfair to recognize and assist some ethnic groups in the United States at the expense of others, such as Mexican nationals who have as great a need.

Sincerely

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