3-4-77 TONY GALLEGOS Dear Dr. Per our discussion in OKlahoma City I am enclosing a letter we sent to Dresilent Carter. We have Ileided to hold a anference in N.C. March 21,22, There has been no confirmation and 23. that we will be able to see either I you can make it to D. Con Cartin in mondele. the above dates we will send you a sound trip taket plus \$5600 expenses we wish it could be more but, there will allways have to be those sucrifices.

your injut would be most valuable to the Group. I you can be with us on the above date please let me know no later than murch 11, 1971. My address of phone number 7149 PICO VISTA Rd PICO RIVERA, CA 98660 213-692-5751-Home 213 - 320 - 2387 - Work Come Herman

MEXICAN AMERICAN NATIONAL

## ISSUES

CONFERENCE

"LA VOZ DE UNA RAZA UNIDA"

March 3, 1977

## IMMEDIATE AND PERSONAL ATTENTION

PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear President Carter:

The Mexican-American community believes that it is being ignored by the present administration.

We hope, during our National Issues Conference in Washington, D. C. to discover that this is only temporary and that the future is bright for all minorities. We have great hopes that you will be the great leader this country and Mexican-Americans have long sought and needed.

All the major Mexican-American organizations in the Southwest have joined together to set up a National Mexican-American Issues Conference from March 21st to March 23, 1977 in Washington, D. C.

Association of Mexican-American Educators (AMAE)
American G. I. Forum
League of United Latin-American Citizens (LULAC)
Mexican-American Political Association (MAPA)
Personnel Management Institute of Aztlan

In large measure, the success of our Conference will depend upon the consideration and sensitivity personally displayed by your Cabinet Officers.

In addition, we feel that it is extremely important, symbolically as well as substantively for us to have a <u>personal</u> meeting with you. (At a minimum we would appreciate one hour.) We feel it is very difficult for us as Mexican-American leaders to tell our communities that Canada is of far greater concern to the President than the fate of over eight million Mexican-Americans.

Our problems abound as we are sure you are aware. We are attacked due to Undocumented Persons (Illegal Aliens). Our unemployment rate is twice the white rate. Our teenage unemployment rate exceeds 40%. Our educational opportunities in many areas of the country do not meet Western Civilization standards, particularly due to the absence of bilingual education. And hundreds of thousands of Mexican-Americans are still exploited by large agricultural interests as they make their way across America insuring the harvest of the crops.

Please do not forget us; we need each other.

Sinceramente,

Tony E. Gallegos - Coordinator National Issues Conference

TEG/fks