

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 9, 1978

Honorable Abraham Ribicoff
Chairman
Senate Governmental Affairs Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We are writing to urge the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee to hold hearings on S. 1066, a bill to establish an Office of Hispanic Affairs.

Although Hispanic Americans are this nation's second largest minority, their interests have long been inadequately represented at the policy-making level. If there is to be any progress toward eliminating the many severe and deeply rooted problems facing the Hispanic-American, the policy-makers within our government must first be made aware that a problem does indeed exist. S. 1066 will go far toward providing key decision-makers with the understanding, background and familiarity required to sufficiently address the needs and problems of this growing community.

The purpose of S. 1066 is to insure that the flow of essential information and data on Hispanic-American citizens reaches the highest levels of policy and management in both the Office of the Executive and the Federal agencies.

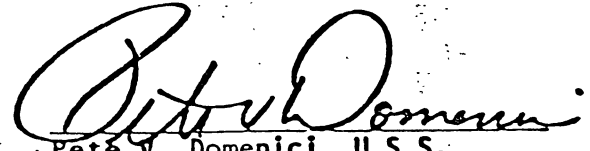
An important concept of our bill is input; it will establish a network and a system that will include Hispanic-Americans in the total planning and decision processes of government policy-making. The results will provide new opportunities for the same access to government that already is available to so many other Americans.

The Hispanic-American community is counting on the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee for the opportunity to present firsthand testimony on its needs, as well as an insight into its aspirations as citizens of our society. As sponsors of this bill, we welcome your commitment to hold hearings and look forward, therefore, to your reply.

Sincerely,


John Tower, U.S.S.


Dennis DeConcini, U.S.S.


Pete V. Domenici, U.S.S.


Robert Dole, U.S.S.