



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

AUG 3 1 1970

Dr. Hector Garcia, Chairman  
American GI Forum  
1315 Bright at Morgan Street  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

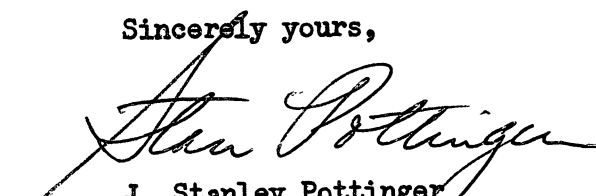
Dear Dr. Garcia:

I enjoyed meeting with you and your colleagues last Thursday and hope that we can stay in touch, both in our continued enforcement of the Civil Rights Act and in our efforts to attract more Spanish-surnamed Americans to key jobs in this office.

I thought you would be interested in seeing the attached letters, which indicate some of the favorable thoughts prompted by our efforts in the area of language discrimination.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,



J. Stanley Pottinger  
Director, Office for Civil Rights

Enclosures



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
DIVISION OF EXTENSION  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78712

Office of  
Extension Teaching and Field Service Bureau  
201 Extension Building  
(512) 471-7335

July 2, 1970

Dr. Stanley Pottinger, Director  
Office of Civil Rights  
Department of Health, Education,  
and Welfare  
Regional Office Building, G.S.A.  
Seventh and D Street Southwest  
Washington, D. C. 20202

Dear Dr. Pottinger:

Upon returning from the Denver Conference, several reflections have come to my mind and some important decisions for future action have now been made by my staff. I thought perhaps for purposes of general communication, increased cooperation, and greater effectiveness, that I might briefly share some of these thoughts and decisions with you.

The Texas Educational Desegregation Technical Assistance Center has, since its inception in 1968, spent approximately one-half of its funded budget dealing with problems relating to Mexican American affairs in the western half of the State of Texas and in the six major cities of the State. This expenditure was made upon our own initiative. Both the programs and the materials which have been presented and used with the public school faculties who teach Mexican Americans have been written, filmed, and otherwise produced by the TEDTAC staff. We did this in 68-69 because there were no materials available for our use. (The first week that "Invisible Minority" was made available to the public, we purchased two copies and have shown it on the average of three times every week since March 1969.) At every informal opportunity, we have sought increased emphasis towards elimination of discriminatory practices against Mexican American students, either through administrative edict or by court order. This Spring we even succeeded in bringing together 35 school districts of West Texas into a conference with consultants, leaders, and representatives of the Mexican American Legal Defense Education Fund and other activist organizations.

Dr. Stanley Pottinger

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July 2, 1970

We do see the May 25 memorandum issued by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare as a legitimate extension of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Likewise, after careful consideration and further conversation with members of this staff, we are determined to implement the memorandum of May 25. We are going to put together the efforts of some of the best Mexican American consultants in the country for the purpose of showing us the proper procedures of implementation.

I am convinced that through technical assistance of a specific nature, we can obtain a considerable degree of voluntary compliance by superintendents in the western part of the State; I continue to have confidence that those who do not wish to comply will be dealt with in an effective and honest fashion by the Office of Civil Rights.

Sincerely,



Pete Williams  
Project Administrator  
Texas Educational Desegregation  
Technical Assistance Center

JFWJr/aq

cc: Dr. Lloyd Henderson  
Dr. John Bell  
Mr. Gilbert Conoley  
Dr. John Aragon

UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

WESTERN FIELD OFFICE

U.S. Courthouse & Federal Building

312 North Spring Street, Room 1730

Los Angeles, California 90012

Telephone: (213) 688-3437

July 2, 1970

Mr. Martin H. Gerry  
Special Assistant to the Director  
for Civil Rights  
Department of Health, Education and  
Welfare  
Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D. C. 20201

Dear Martin:

Once again thank you for the opportunity of spending a few days attempting to come up with guidelines for the memorandum on National Origin. You guys certainly did a job and I was terribly impressed knowing that there are some gringos that know what they are talking about. There was a lot of corazon in all the efforts put forth at the conference and believe me when I say as a professional conference goer, this was without a doubt one of the greatest experiences I have ever had.

Thank you again, and I wish to assure you that our office will assist you in whatever way possible. Just give us a call.

Siempre tu amigo,



Philip Montez  
Director  
Western Field Office





THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

DIVISION OF EXTENSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78712

Office of  
Extension Teaching and Field Service Bureau  
201 Extension Building  
(512) 471-7335

July 3, 1970

Dr. Lloyd Henderson, Director.  
Office of Civil Rights, Title VI  
Department of Health, Education,  
and Welfare  
Regional Office Building, Room 3018  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Dr. Henderson:

One preliminary step we have taken since the Denver Conference has involved extensive consultation with State Representative Carlos Truan and his staff relative to remedial legislation which could be sought from the coming biennial session of the Texas Legislature in January 1971. The Representative called our office seeking technical assistance relative to educational reform for Mexican American students. Representative Truan is extremely enthusiastic over what we call our "Bilingual Resource" proposal. The bill would require that Texas teachers who are bilingual shall instruct Mexican American students in Spanish in the classroom whenever necessary to enable the student to understand the concept or material being presented to the class. This proposal is clearly within the framework of TEDTAC's philosophy of applying specific remedies that are enforceable to attain correction of specific inequalities. Representative Truan agrees with us that either the State Department of Education or the Legislature must direct the public schools to immediately use the bilingual, bi-cultural resources already employed on our facilities without waiting for the more formalized structures known as "bilingual projects." This bill will be a natural follow-up to the repeal we obtained two years ago of a provision in our Penal Code which made it a misdemeanor to teach in any language other than English. That repeal was overwhelmingly endorsed by the Legislature; the statute had served no purpose other than be a foundation for board resolutions and threats against local faculties in the areas where Mexican American students commenced entering the public schools following the Second World War. Ironically enough, as originally passed (during the First World War), the statute was not meant to correct a Spanish

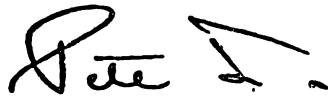
Dr. Lloyd Henderson

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July 3, 1970

We shall keep your offices informed of our progress with Representative Truan. He intends to have his draft prepared by the Legislative Council and then seek as many co-sponsors as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Pete Williams", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pete Williams  
Project Administrator  
Texas Educational Desegregation  
Technical Assistance Center

JPW/aq

cc: Dr. John Bell

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE  
4TH FLOOR LOWICH BUILDING  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

JUL - 8 1970

J. Stanley Pottinger, Director  
Office of Civil Rights  
Department of Health, Education  
and Welfare  
#7 "D" Street, Southwest  
Washington, D. C. 20202

Dear Mr. Pottinger:

I was fortunate enough to be invited to attend the recent Civil Rights Conference on the Spanish-Speaking Child in Denver, Colorado, and was very impressed with the presentations and the manner in which the conference was conducted.

I want to congratulate you and your staff, especially Don Morales and his secretary, Margarete Renteria, for giving this special problem, "The Spanish-Speaking Child," your undivided attention.

The 12,000,000 Spanish-Speaking People in the United States will be looking to you and the Administration for necessary leadership in the Civil Rights and Equal Education Field, and we are expecting you to direct staff, time, priorities, funds, and all other available resources to resolve the problems which face the poor, disenfranchised, and forgotten Spanish-Speaking Children in our public schools in the United States.

Sincerely,

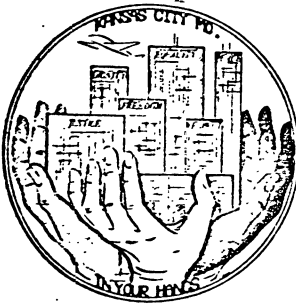
*Gilbert L. Herrera*

Gilbert L. Herrera, Chief  
Texas Branch  
Rural Field Operations Division

cc: Don Morales,  
Office of Civil Rights  
Washington, D. C.

Ernest C. Woods, Chief  
Rural Field Operations  
Division (6/FOR)

*Pottinger  
one of many  
nice letters we  
rec'd  
RES*



ALVIN L. BROOKS  
DIRECTOR

*City of*  
**KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI**

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RELATIONS

26TH FLOOR, CITY HALL  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64106  
816 - CRESTVIEW 4-1432

Monday, July 13, 1970

J. Stanley Pottinger, Director  
Office For Civil Rights  
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare  
Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Mr. Pottinger:

As a Community worker serving Kansas City's Westside, the Mexican-American community in Kansas City, I am greatly concerned with equal educational opportunities for Chicanos. I was gratified to read your memorandum of May 25, 1970 on "Identification on Discrimination and Denial of Services on the Basis of National Origin."

I should like to know what present measures are being implemented to carry out the intent of the memorandum, and what measures will be taken to assure compliance and enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 "and the Departmental Regulation (45 CFR Part 80) promulgated thereunder."

I feel that the memo is indeed important and should have a strong mechanism to back it up.

Yours very truly,

*Richard Parra*

RICHARD PARRA  
Community Worker