

Dr. H. P. Garcia

McAllen, Texas
May 2, 1962

Dear Friend:

As you know many of us are in politics to improve the conditions of our group-- the Spanish-speaking. Men such as Dr. Hector P. Garcia of Corpus Christi and others have sacrificed their time, talent, families and even their health in this work. From 1950 to 1960 we supported candidates for Governor and lost every time. From past defeats we have learned that we must (1) have a candidate that offers a positive program with respect to our group, and (2) that also has a decent chance to win.

At the PASO convention the delegates eliminated some candidates on the belief that they could not win and others because they refused to take a stand on issues that concerned us. Only Governor Daniel met the two requisites, and this is why PASO endorsed him.

Governor Daniel, everyone concedes, has a place assured in the run-off, and the delegates at the PASO convention agreed on this. But the Governor also satisfied us with respect to his past record and to his future program.

As Attorney General in 1949 he campaigned for the abolition of the Poll Tax. He was the first Attorney General to name one of us as an assistant. He wrote opinions holding it unconstitutional to segregate us in public schools and public swimming pools. He agreed that the Federal Court in the Delgado Case enter a decree in our favor and with this decision we were able to end school segregation in most places.

As Governor he has appointed more of us to State Boards and Agencies than has any other Governor, and he will do more in the future in this connection. He is still in favor of abolishing the Poll Tax and was instrumental in having the referendum on this put on the ballot for May 5. He pushed through the Legislature the law that allows school districts to give summer classes to those of our children who are deficient in English so they can start even with other children when school opens in September. He urged us to get qualified persons to apply for positions in the Texas Highway Patrol and assured us that he would help eliminate discrimination against ours in employment by the State.

I solicit your vote for Governor Daniel on May 5 and urge you to get all your friends and acquaintances out to vote. We may be as influential in this election as we were in the Presidential election of 1960--if we get our vote out.

Sincerely yours,



Ed Idar, Jr., PASO
Executive Secretary