

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

**SOUTHWEST REGION
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701**

July 24, 1967

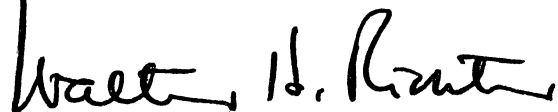
Dr. Hector Garcia
3024 Morgan
Corpus Christi, Texas

Dear Dr. Garcia:

Word has reached me of your unhappiness with employment policies and procedures by Southwest Region OEO. Since we are committed to a policy of non-discrimination, and also because we are deeply interested in having your friendship and support, I would appreciate your providing me with specific bases for your feelings if such feelings actually exist. This will then permit us to address ourselves to correcting any deficiencies which may in fact exist.

I hope you will have an occasion to pay us another visit some time soon. Your advice and suggestions are always welcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter H. Richter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a vertical line extending upwards from the start.

Walter H. Richter
Director, Southwest Region



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

October 3, 1967

Dr. Hector Garcia, Founder, G.I. Forum
c/o The United States Mission to the United Nations
799 United Nations Plaza - Room 712
New York City, New York

Dear Dr. Garcia:

Secretary Gardner's office has asked me to reply to your inquiry concerning the collection of racial data for the Higher Education Compliance Reports. Please be assured that the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has no desire or intention to categorize students of Spanish American ancestry as other than white. In a telegram to Dr. Tom L. Popejoy, President, University of New Mexico, Peter Libassi, Director, Office for Civil Rights, has stated

...in completing the H.E.W. Compliance Report of Institutions of Higher Education under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, list students of Spanish American origin under the column 'white' in Part III and insert under 'Remarks' the number of students with Spanish American surnames included in each of the items in the 'white' column in Part III.

I trust that this will help clear up any misunderstanding about the categorizing of Spanish Americans in connection with the Higher Education Compliance Report.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at any time.

Sincerely yours,


Solomon Arbeiter
Higher Education Coordinator
Office of Civil Rights



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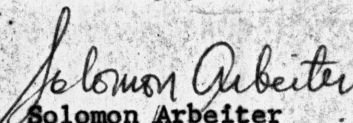
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