

APRIL 4, 1961

MR. JERRY HOLLEMAN, Ass't SEC.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. HOLLEMAN:

I READ IN THE NEWSPAPER THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE A TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE BRACERO PROGRAM PROVIDING THAT MORE GUARANTEE IS GIVEN TO THE AMERICAN WORKER.

I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT ALTHOUGH I DO APPROVE OF YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS, IT WILL STILL NOT DO ANY GOOD IF OUR LOCAL PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE THE GUARANTEES OR IMPROVING CONDITIONS. I KNOW THAT YOUR INTENTIONS ARE GOOD, BUT I CERTAINLY THINK THAT THE BEST THING TO DO IS TO ELIMINATE THE BRACERO PROGRAM COMPLETELY AND GIVE OUR PEOPLE A CHANCE TO ASK FOR HIGHER WAGES.

I SINCERELY BELIEVE THAT IF THE BRACEROS GET OUT OF THE COUNTRY, OUR PEOPLE WILL GET THIS GUARANTEES AND PERHAPS MORE. HOWEVER, PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THIS PERSONALLY, I JUST QUESTION THE WISDOM OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION. CERTAINLY, THE MOST YOU SHOULD GIVE IS A ONE YEAR EXTENSION. A TWO YEAR EXTENSION IS TOO DANGEROUS.

SINCERELY YOURS,

HECTOR P. GARCIA, M.D.

CC: BOB SANCHEZ