

The original documents are located in Box 3, folder “Spanish Speaking Coalition on Domestic Affairs” of the Fernando E.C. De Baca Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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May 12, 1975

Dear John:

The President has asked me to acknowledge your recent letter and to express his appreciation for your warm words of support.

Having participated with the President in the development of his December 11, 1974 Memorandum on Minority Business Enterprise, I am pleased to report that all Federal departments and agencies have responded creatively and affirmatively to the President's appeal for support of the Minority Business Enterprise Program. Enclosed for your perusal are a few of the actual responses received from some of the larger departments and agencies. I am sure that once you have had the opportunity to review these responses, you will agree that we have come a long way with our minority enterprise development efforts.

But much remains to be done. And we will need the continued support of organizations like the National Spanish-Speaking Coalition on Domestic Affairs if this Administration is to achieve the ambitious goals it has set for itself in this area.

The President is counting on you. I know you will not let him down.

Sincerely,

Fernando E. C. De Baca
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. John A. Flores
National Chairman
National Spanish-Speaking Coalition
on Domestic Affairs
P. O. Box 12801
Fresno, California 93779

FECDeB:mmd:5/12/75



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NATIONAL SPANISH-SPEAKING COALITION ON DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

P.O. BOX 12801
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93779
TELEPHONE 209/485-6290

FERNANDO DE BACA

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TOM RODRIQUEZ
Topeka, Kansas

April 30, 1975

Gerald R. Ford, President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Mr. President:

I am in receipt of a letter from Mr. Alex Armendaris, Director Office of Minority Business Enterprise, in which he enclosed a memorandum from you addressed to members of your cabinet. I was most happy to read that you are stressing the need of support in minority business enterprise.

As I mentioned to Alex, Administrations in the past have only talked of support; I was most pleased to hear that you have gone one step further.

The members of the Spanish Speaking Coalition will lend support and their endorsement to your efforts.

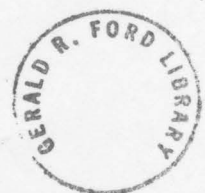
Thank you and best wishes.

Respectfully yours,



John A. Flores
National Chairman

cn



NATIONAL SPANISH-SPEAKING COALITION ON DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

BOX 12801
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93779
TELEPHONE (805) 432-1152

WHITE HOUSE
MAIL ROOM

1975 MAY 9 AM 11:52

April 30, 1975

Gerald R. Ford, President

Washington, D. C. 20500

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Respectfully yours,

John A. Flores
National Chairman

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P.O. BOX 12801

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93779

Gerald R. Ford, President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500





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NATIONAL SPANISH-SPEAKING COALITION ON DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

P.O. BOX 12801
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93779
TELEPHONE 209/485-6290

August 20, 1974

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Chicago, Illinois
TOM RODRIGUEZ
Topeka, Kansas

President Gerald Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Let me begin by congratulating you on behalf of the National Spanish Speaking Coalition on Domestic Affairs. As I listened to your acceptance speech it was heartwarming to hear you make reference to the Brown community. It is the first time I recall a President's acceptance speech include a comment on the "forgotten minority".

I am also very pleased at the attitude and position you have taken concerning the involvement of all the people, regardless of party, in bringing America back to a strong and solid foundation.

With your comment fresh in my mind, I take this opportunity to bring to your attention once again those matters that were discussed when several Hispanic Americans met with you as Vice President on April 10, 1974, in Washington, D. C. We addressed several concerns that needed your attention as Vice President and now as President, so that some solutions can begin coming forth in alleviating the problems of the Hispanic American.

If I may be allowed I would like to enumerate highlights of that discussion:

1. The appointment of a liaison between your office and the Spanish speaking community be made as soon as possible so that your office would have direct input from those on the outside. Recently Mr. Fernando DeBaca was selected to be that person. I hope as you select your staff, you will choose Mr. DeBaca to continue serving in this capacity. We in the Spanish speaking community think very highly of him and we know he is fully aware of the problems and concerns of our Spanish speaking communities.

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President Gerald Ford
August 22, 1974

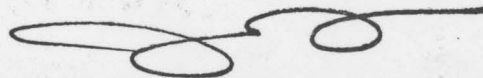
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2. Programs need to be developed to assist Spanish speaking adults in developing better educational and vocational skills. As you are aware, Mr. President, statistics will bear out that members of the Spanish speaking communities continue to lag in both education and skills. This results in the Spanish speaking community having the lowest income level among the major minorities in this country.
3. We discussed holding regional meetings that would bring the "mountain to the people" instead of having the people trek to Washington to make their feelings and concerns known.
4. And last, Mr. President, we discussed the possibility of a White House conference that would bring your administration much closer to the Spanish speaking community. In return it will bring the Spanish speaking community closer to you. I think this is imperative if, in fact, ALL Americans including those of Spanish speaking descent are to participate in the molding of a great future for our great country.

I am sure through your leadership, and with the help of God, we will solve our pressing domestic problems.

Once again, Congratulations! We offer our assistance to you and your staff in any way we can to help make our country a better place to live for ALL Americans.

Respectfully yours,



John A. Flores
National Chairman

kb

cc: Ann Armstrong
Gwen Anderson
Fernando DeBaca

