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(619) 436-3614

California Legislature

Special Committee on Border Issues

SENATOR WILLIAM A. CRAVEN
CHAIRMAN

91-BI

March 19, 1991

As Chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Border Issues, I am initiating a county-wide study to determine the impacts of the undocumented on public agencies and school districts within San Diego County. This is the first time that a California Legislative Committee has focused its attention on the undocumented with the thought in mind, that costs for services rendered by local public agencies and school districts are unreimbursable and are creating a tremendous drain on already limited budgets.

Specifically, the Committee is asking school districts in San Diego County to collect data germane to their daily operations as it relates to the delivery of educational services to the undocumented. Public agencies have been asked to keep data from April 1, 1991 through June 30, 1991. While I realize that school districts operate on a school year basis and under certain restraints in collecting data on the undocumented, it is hoped that the districts can find a creative means of helping the Committee in obtaining information on the number of students and level of educational services provided, along with the related costs of such services. We would be most pleased if there is a method by which a district can collect data that most closely follows the data collection period as outlined above.

March 22, 1991
Page Two

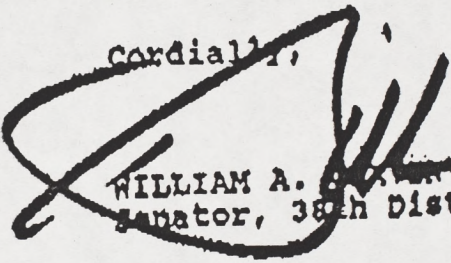
We know that children and parents often give unsolicited information to the classroom teacher and on that basis, several suggestions come to mind. Perhaps site principals in your school district could ask each teacher to estimate the number of undocumented pupils in each class or perhaps your district site Coordinator could carry out this function.... or perhaps you might already have some criteria in mind to accomplish the data collection task. We would appreciate any suggestions you may have.

The Border Issues Committee has had some thoughts, in this regard, as well. We offer the following examples for your consideration:

Identifying students who have no Social Security Card, no previous school records, no ongoing immunization records, limited or non-english speaking, incorrect or non-existent street addresses, lack of documentation of legal status or no U.S. birth certificate.

Thank you for your attention to this request. I look forward to your participation in our study of the impact of the undocumented in San Diego County. If you have any questions, please give either Mary Jo Kerlin or Carol Cox a call in my district office: (619) 438-3814 or 744-2223.

Cordially,



WILLIAM A. KERLIN
Senator, 38th District

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encls.


Cacería de Hispanos en California

Cacería de Hispanos en California

■ Piden una Severa Investigación por Discriminación

SAN DIEGO.- Una encuesta ordenada por un Comité de la Asamblea Estatal para conocer el impacto económico de los inmigrantes ilegales sobre la región fue rechazada abiertamente por diferentes organizaciones de derechos civiles de todo el Estado.

El Comité de Derechos Chicanos que preside Herman Bacca envió una carta al Congreso de California,

 (PASA A LA PAGINA 4)

a través del senador David Roberti, mediante la cual demanda que el Senado estatal abra una severa investigación por la decisión del Comité de Asuntos Fronterizos, que preside el congresista William Craven, de realizar una encuesta de los estudiantes hispanos que hay registrados en el sistema escolar del Condado de San Diego con el fin de establecer cuántos de estos niños son indocumentados.

A petición del senador estatal William Craven la Asamblea de California decidió adelantar una encuesta en las diferentes poblaciones y territorios del Condado de San Diego con el supuesto propósito de conocer el impacto que sobre la economía de la región tiene en las escuelas y demás agencias del gobierno el fenómeno de la inmigración ilegal.

La controversia se suscitó el mes pasado, cuando Craven escribió a cada una de las escuelas del Condado y a los diferentes directores de departamentos y agencias del gobierno pidiéndoles contabilizar el número de personas indocumentadas que hacen uso de los servicios públicos por cuenta del gobierno. Craven pidió igualmente a los hospitales y demás centros de atención médica que enviara una relación a los indocumentados.

El mayor problema, según los maestros de las escuelas y directivos de los hospitales, es el de saber o poder determinar quién o quiénes no son residentes legales en los Estados Unidos.

Según un asistente de Craven, la encuesta busca establecer la realidad del problema para buscar los fondos federales necesarios y también llamar la atención del gobierno de Washington sobre el tremendo problema de la inmigración ilegal en San Diego.

Roberto Martínez, uno de los más destacados activistas de la comunidad hispana en la región, expresó que la medida no es más que un "acta de control sobre México" que se enfoca sobre todos los residentes de origen latino. Martínez es miembro de la Junta Directiva de la Organización Concejera de la Comunidad Latina y miembro del Comité de Educación del Condado de San Diego.

Martínez expresó que la encuesta es una clara persecución contra los hispanos y que su deseo de establecer la cantidad de indocumentados no es segura y de todas maneras presentará un reflejo falso de la realidad. "No creemos que esté capacitado para distinguir entre un residente legal y uno ilegal, pero aparentemente a ellos no les importa", agregó Martínez.

Por su parte, Claudia Smith, quien es consejera de la Liga de Asistencia Rural de California, con oficinas en Oceanside, pidió al Director Administrativo del Condado Norman Hikey, no participar en la encuesta. "Esta no servirá para ayudar a nadie y si distorsionará terriblemente las cifras, expresó la dirigente.

Según Craven, el resultado de la encuesta será básico para sustentar las peticiones de ayuda federal que en materia de asuntos económicos solicitará California al Congreso de la nación en septiembre próximo y podría ayudar a ofrecer mejores servicios a los trabajadores indocumentados de la región.

Pero los directivos del Comité de Derechos Chicanos no creen lo mismo y acusan a Craven de querer ahondar aún más en las diferencias

raciales y los problemas sociales que estas conllevan.

La carta de Bacca acusa a Craven de iniciar "una cacería de brujas" al estilo de las que se realizaban en la época de la inquisición a través de un sistema de interrogatorios a los menores, con tácticas comparables a aquellas que sólo son empleadas por agencias de inteligencia como la KGB de la Unión Soviética.

"Craven pretende que cada maestro o cada directivo de las escuelas públicas se convierta en su informador o espía, con el sólo propósito de atar a los jóvenes escolares de ancestro hispano, convirtiéndolos en chivos expiatorios de un problema que sólo tiene soluciones con la aplicación de la justicia social a través de América Latina".

Varios maestros dijeron que Craven estaba pidiendo a los superintendentes y director de escuelas de educación pública la colaboración en la encuesta en cumplimiento de las leyes de inmigración, ignorando que estos funcionarios no tienen ninguna injerencia en la materia, ni están calificados para hacerlo.

Carvey sugirió a los maestros y principales varias fórmulas para establecer si un estudiante es legal o no.

-Dijo que un estudiante que no hable inglés es sospechoso de ser indocumentado.

-Que un estudiante que no tenga records de sus estudios anteriores, certificados de vacunas o número del Seguro Social, es indocumentado.

-Que un estudiante cuya dirección de residencia no pueda ser comprobada, es un indocumentado.

-Que aquel que no tenga certificado de nacimiento en Estados Unidos es también indocumentado.

Estas sugerencias causaron furia en el personal docente de las escuelas y en las organizaciones de defensa y ayuda a los hispanos.

La carta de Bacca señala que "es obvio que cualquiera de estos sistemas empleados para obtener información es una seria violación de los derechos constitucionales. Los mismos maestros al mostrar su disgusto manifestaron que ellos no eran agentes de inmigración.

"Bajo la premisa de que un menor que no hable inglés es indocumentado, se cometerían muchos atropellos, pues miles de personas de distinto origen y raza llegan al país bajo diferentes categorías de inmigración, o han crecido en hogares o viviendas en donde sólo se habla su lengua de origen", dijo Debora Escobedo, abogada de la Organización Multicultural Educación, Entrenamiento y Derechos de los Inmigrantes.



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

April 24, 1991

Senator David Roberti
Senate Pro-Tem
205 Capitol Bldg.
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator:

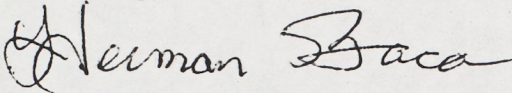
Our organization demands to know who in the California State Senate has allowed Senator William Craven to launch a political "witch hunt" under the guise of conducting a study (see attachment A) and more importantly, who in the Senate has given Senator Craven the legal authority to establish a KGB type "spy program" that utilizes school educators to spy on defenseless school children of Mexican-ancestry and their parents in San Diego County?

The Craven study, which the California Senate has authorized since April 1, 1991, compels educators in San Diego school districts (who are dependent on State funds) to officiate as informers, spies and outright finks, against young and innocent students of Mexican-ancestry. These innocent students because of the devious methods that are being proposed by Senator Craven will be forced willing or unwillingly to turn against their parents for the dubious purpose of gathering statistics on the economic impact of undocumented aliens in San Diego school districts.

As a rights organization, we are deeply concerned and troubled over Senator Craven's instruction (tactics) to educators that they find "creative" ways to obtain information from students because (as Senator Craven's letter outlines) "we know that children and parents often give unsolicited information to the classroom teacher," and "educators" identify students who have no social security cards, no previous school records, no ongoing immunization records, limited or non-english speaking, incorrect or non-existent street addresses, lack of documentation of legal status or no U.S. birth certificate." It is obvious that the above approach to obtaining information raises serious legal and constitutional issues.

We urge that the California State Senate immediately initiate steps to stop the ongoing Craven study, and that appropriate committees in the Senate launch an investigation into who authorized this political and racist study. To do nothing is for the Senate to allow the potential persecution of defenseless children and the harassment of their tax-paying parents. This will ultimately result in the disruption of the educational process for all involved, and the destruction of the historical trust between teacher, student and parent, which has existed in the California educational system.

Awaiting your prompt reply,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Herman Baca". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Herman Baca,
Chairman

cc Wadie Deddeh, Senator
News Media
CA State Attorney General
Dan Lungren
California State Superintendent
of Education, Bill Honig

San Dieguito

Union High School District

710 Encinitas Blvd.
Encinitas, CA 92024-3357
619/753-6491

March 28, 1991

Dear Colleagues,

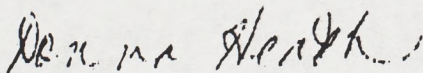
The letter from Senator Craven, dated March 19, 1991, "Special Committee on Border Issues," is of grave concern to educators working in San Diego County who foster equity for all students.

The Senator is calling on public schools to "police" the undocumented pupils and families and provide his committee with a cost analysis of these services that are, in his words, "creating a tremendous drain on already limited budgets." The Senator and the Border Issues Committee, in asking public schools to consider creative means to uncover this information, is asking educators to violate the civil rights and constitutional rights of the entire population of immigrant students.

By suggesting that schools use criteria such as social security cards, school records, immunization records, ability to speak English, etc., the Senator is implying that pupils with these characteristics are undocumented. This implication is selective racism and is a discriminatory practice. Furthermore, since he is gathering information from schools and other agencies, the data he may collect will be inaccurate. The data collection process is subjective and cannot guarantee an unduplicated count. Therefore, this invalid information will not create positive effects for education and will probably foster negative relations between schools and families.

I am appalled that the Senator and his committee is resorting to these unconstitutional tactics in the name of generating more money for public education. I suggest that we invite the Senator to meet with educators in San Diego County who could enumerate for him many legal and ethical ways to impact the schools to provide improved services for all students.

Sincerely,



Donna Heath
Director, Bilingual Education

DH/vp

EL MEXICANO

427-8340



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

April 24, 1991

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Senate Pro-Tem
205 Capitol Bldg.
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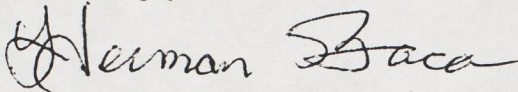
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477-3800

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Herman Baca,
Chairman

cc Wadie Deddeh, Senator
News Media
CA State Attorney General
Dan Lungren
California State Superintendent
of Education, Bill Honig

Bid to count aliens in schools ripped

By Karen Kucher

Tribune Staff Writer

A Chicano-rights group said yesterday that a state senator's study of undocumented aliens' enrollment in San Diego County schools is racist.

Sen. William Craven, R-Oceanside, has asked school districts to use "creative means" to help the Legislature's Special Committee on Border Issues determine the number of undocumented aliens enrolled as students and the cost of providing services to them.

Craven suggested that to compile the statistics the districts use information such as whether a student speaks limited or no English or lacks a Social Security card, previous school records or a birth certificate.

Herman Baca, chairman of the Committee on Chicano Rights Inc., denounced the study as "Ouija-board statistics gathering" and said it would have a devastating effect on the Mexican-American community and on education.

In a letter to Senate President Pro

Tempore David Roberti, D-Los Angeles, Baca said the techniques suggested by Craven would compel teachers to "officiate as informers, spies and outright finks" against students of Mexican ancestry. Baca asked that Craven's study, which he called a "political witch hunt," be stopped.

"We see it as very, very dangerous," Baca said. "People being falsely accused — the trust that has historically existed between the teacher, student and parent that allows the educational process to function could be destroyed."

Craven said he is trying to determine what impact undocumented aliens have on the county and state budgets. He said he plans to take the information to Congress and seek reimbursement.

"We believe that these people come into this country, they are recipients of social services, of school districts and hospitals ... and somebody has to pay," he said.

Craven denied that the study is

racist and said his detractors do not understand what he is trying to accomplish.

"How can they call it racist?" he said. "I'm looking for undocumented people, and they could be Lithuanians as far as I'm concerned. If they are undocumented, those are the people we are trying to (count).

"We don't want their names. We don't want their addresses.

"We're not going to herd them aboard a bus. We're not going to do anything except know that they are not American citizens or they don't have a green card."

However, at least one school district in the county already has decided not to participate in the study.

"From a school standpoint, we make no effort to identify illegal aliens," said DeWayne Ouren, interim superintendent of the National School District in National City. "Quite frankly, that is none of our business.

"We have made no effort to comply because, quite frankly, I would

not know how."

Ouren said he would not use some of the "unsubtle methods" suggested by Craven, such as relying on offhand comments students and parents make to teachers, because the information might be inaccurate.

"I cannot conceive that a governmental agency would use stuff like this," Ouren said. "It is so unscientific a survey that I can't believe that the results would be useful."

Dave Fish, legislative program director of the San Diego Unified School District, said his district has not yet decided about Craven's request for information. District officials already have outlined to Craven's staff the problems they would have in trying to provide the data, Fish said.

"We're not in the immigration business," Fish said. "We're (required), under law, to educate every student who comes through our door.

"It isn't a simple thing to find out which kid is undocumented. That is very complex."

**IF THIS HAS BEEN YOUR
EXPERIENCE WITH DIET PLANS,**

by Fernando Romero

vice, fills tubs