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1 1000
THE WHITE HOUSE Down we had WASHINGTON
August 2, 1976 bund to
JIM CANNON Ward 7
JIM CAVANAUGH
ART QUERN
DAVID LISSING
Recent Court Decision Regarding Aid to Elementary and Secondary Non-Public Schools

I thought you might be interested in a recent decision regarding a New York State attempt to provide aid to non-public schools.

At issue was a state statute which provided for reimbursement to non-public schools for expenses incurred in the provision of services required by state law -- such as the administration of state examinations or the completion of state reporting forms. The state aid amounted to \$8-10 million distributed among 1954 non-public schools.

A three judge U.S. District Court unanimously held that the statute did not meet the test of having a "primary effect" that neither advances nor inhibits religion. The court held that because the reimbursable services "would be so performed whether or not reimbursement is available" the state-mandated activities were an impermissible subsidy to normal operating costs the effect of which would be the direct advancement of religion.

On the same day this District Court decision was handed down, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a Maryland statute which provided state aid to private institutions of higher education. The court in that decision focused on the fact that the institutions were not "pervasively sectarian" and the students were not of an impressionable age. This decision does not appear to provide any basis for arguing for a reversal of the decision on the New York case.

WASHINGTON

August 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CANNON

BILL DIEFENDERFE

FROM:

SUBJECT:

The Effect of Desegregation Plans on Federal Compensatory Education Programs

Attached is a memorandum from you to the President and a letter from the President to Senator Dole concerning the above referenced subject.

The present Title I, Elementary and Secondary Education Act was not drafted to take into account the effects of desegregation efforts in our Nation's communities. Often when community desegregation plans are implemented a lowincome child who was receiving Federal compensatory education services is transferred to a school which is not eligible to participate in such programs because it has too few low-income children in attendance. This situation has been the object of serious criticism. The critics, who include participants in the President's White House meetings on busing, suggest that Title I funds should be able "to follow the child" to his new school.

Senator Kennedy has included a provision in the Senate Omnibus Education Bill, S. 2657, to allow Title I funds to "Follow the Child" in instances where the desegregation plan is court-ordered. The initiative recommended in the attached memorandum allows Title I funds to "follow the child" in instances of voluntary desegregation plans, as well as, court-ordered ones. However, to prevent the diffusion of Title I funds to the extent program effectiveness is impaired a three-year limitation is placed on the ability of a local school district to "follow the child."

Senator Dole has been actively involved in the "follow the child issue." Wichita, Kansas, which is operating under a court desegregation order has loudly protested Federal restrictions on "following the child" and has in fact ignored such restrictions for several years. The President's letter to Senator Dole, as well as, the proposed legislative language have been cleared with Dole's office. Senator Dole intends to offer the President's proposal in bill form soon after its receipt so as to gain maximum exposure.

Attachments



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON pile

August 11, 1976

Dear Secretary Mathews:

The President saw the attached comments on what you are doing to reform HEW regulations and commented "Good P.R.".

I thought you might like to know that the President personally appreciates your efforts.

Sincerely, 1 James/M. Cannon Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs

The Honorable F. David Mathews Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Washington, D.C. 20201

. Iducation THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON August 12, 1976 TO: MAX FRIEDERSDORF FROM: JIM CANNON OK if I call Congressman Broomfield? It was gasier to explain to Erlenborn over the phone than it would have been to put it in a letter. Kine may O.P.

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Date 8/11

TO: mas Friedersdorf FROM: DAVID LISSY

OT would be best of This could be responded to orally - as fin Connon ded with Erlenborn's inquiry on the same rulyers. he do not antend to Donvene a hhate House Conference. e would be glad to brief where will make the call. ong

July 29, 1976

Dear Sill:

Thank you for your July 21 letter regarding the continuing interast of Dr. Don P. Sholdon in a stite Souse Conference on Education being bold.

I will be pleased to request a report on the cossibility of a conference being scheduled.

Bith kindest regards,

Sincerely.

Har L. Fristerssorf Assistant to the President

The Ecocrable Villiam 5. Broadfield House of Representatives Nephryton, S.C. 20513

bco: w/incoming to James Cannon for DRAFT REPLY. Note that this is the third time the Congressman has requested information. (Copies bf previous requests and mamos attached.)

-MLF: JEB: VO: pt



Aducation

WASHINGTON

August 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO:

FROM:

JIM CANNOR "Follow the Child"

SUBJECT:

The changes are insufficient.

In the memorandum to the President, and in the letter to Senator Dole, which we hope will be made public, let's be less technical and more understandable about what we are trying to accomplish.

July Alex was all when a lex harder of the part of the I am sure this memorandum and letter are technically correct; but they are not likely to be understood by anyone who is not familiar with the legislation.

WASHINGTON

August 11, 1976

Dear Bob:

I commend and support your interest in ensuring that children presently being served under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are not denied the benefits of that program because their community pursues a desegregation plan.

School districts pursuing voluntary desegregation plans, as well as those doing so under court order, should have the ability to "follow the child" with Title I funds. To prevent the program funds from becoming widely diffused, weakening the overall effect of the program, I believe the school districts undergoing desegregation should only be able to "follow the child" with Title I funds for three years from the date the desegregation plan is initiated. I would also propose that individual children who participated in Title I compensatory education programs during the FY 1975-1976 school year should be served until July 1, 1979 without regard to the past implementation date of a desegregation plan in their community.

Enclosed with this letter is the legislative language necessary to enact my proposal. You may wish to offer this proposal when S. 2657 is considered by the Senate. I would appreciate your support and the Senate's adoption of my recommendations on the "follow the child" issue, as well as those made by the Administration concerning other aspects of S. 2657.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert J. Dole United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

WASHINGTON

August 12, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JIM CANNON

SUBJECT:

The Effect of Desegregation Plans on Federal Compensatory Education Programs

Background

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) provides assistance for compensatory education programs to low-income children. Under existing law when a school district voluntarily desegregates or is ordered to do so by a court, low-income students who are transferred to different schools may no longer be eligible to receive Title I benefits because their new school has too few low-income children in attendance. The total amount of assistance to the school district remains the same; the problem is who is eligible to receive the benefits.

In several of your meetings to discuss busing the participants mentioned this problem. They spoke of the illogic of the Federal rule which restricted the use of Title I even though no additional spending was involved.

In the Senate Omnibus Education Bill (S.2657), which is scheduled to be taken up by the Senate during the week of August 23, there is a provision to allow Title I, ESEA funds to "follow the child" to his new school, if the child is transferred due to a court-ordered desegregation plan.

We believe we can improve on the Senate bill approach by allowing Title I funds to "follow the child" in cases of voluntary desegregation as well. We believe, however, there should be a time limit so that funds only "follow the child" immediately following the desegregation plan for a period of three years. To cover a few school districts with special problems, we would also propose to provide three years of benefit eligibility for any child who received Title I services during school year 1975-1976 even if the district desegregated at an earlier time.



OMB and HEW concur with the proposal outlined above. It has also been cleared with the Counsel's Office, with Max Friedersdorf and with the Justice Department.

Senator Dole has been actively involved in the "follow the child" issue as it continues to be a problem in Witchita, Kansas. He will offer and actively support your proposal if it is forwarded to him.

We believe it would be appropriate for you to take personal credit for the Administration's position on this issue, especially since it was an issue raised with you at the busing meetings. Alternatively, HEW could routinely advise the Senate of the Administration's position.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend you approve the proposed Administration initiative on "follow the child" and that you sign the attached letter to Senator Dole. This letter has been approved by Robert Hartmann.

Approve

Disapprove

attachment

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

THE PRESIDENT

JIM CANNON

THE EFFECT OF DESEGREGATION PLANS ON FEDERAL COMPENSATORY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Background

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) provides assistance for compensatory education programs to low-income children. Under existing law when a school district voluntarily desegregates or is ordered to do so by a court, low-income students who are transferred to different schools may no longer be eligible to receive Title I benefits because their new school has too few low-income children in attendance. The total amount of assistance to the school district remains the same; the problem is who is eligible to receive the benefits.

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We believe we can improve on the Senate bill approach by allowing Title I funds to "follow the child" in cases of voluntary desegregation as well. We believe, however, there should be a time limit so that funds only "follow the child" immediately following the desegregation plan for a period of three years. To cover a few school districts with special problems, we would also propose to provide three years of benefit eligibility for any child who received Title I services during school year 1975-1976 even if the district desegregated at an earlier time. OMB and HEW concur with the proposal outlined above. It has also been cleared with the Counsel's Office, with Max Friedersdorf and with the Justice Department.

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We believe it would be appropriate for you to take personal credit for the Administration's position on this issue, especially since it was an issue raised with you at the busing meetings. Alternatively, HEW could routinely advise the Senate of the Administration's position.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend you approve the proposed Administration initiative on "follow the child" and that you sign the attached letter to Senator Dole.

Approve

Disapprove

WASHINGTON

Dear Bob:

I commend and support your interest in ensuring that children presently being served under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are not denied the benefits of that program because their community pursues a desegregation plan.

School districts pursuing voluntary desegregation plans, as well as those doing so under court order, should have the ability to "follow the child" with Title I funds. To prevent the program funds from becoming widely diffused, weakening the overall effect of the program, I believe the school districts undergoing desegregation should only be able to "follow the child" with Title I funds for three years from the date the desegregation plan is initiated. I would also propose that individual children who participated in Title I compensatory education programs during the FY 1975-1976 school year should be served until July 1, 1979 without regard to the past implementation date of a desegregation plan in their community.

Enclosed with this letter is the legislative language necessary to enact my proposal. You may wish to offer this proposal when S. 2657 is considered by the Senate. I would appreciate your support and the Senate's adoption of my recommendations on the "follow the child" issue, as well as those made by the Administration concerning other aspects of S. 2657.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert J. Dole United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

AMENDMENT TO S. 2657 RELATING TO ELIGIBILITY FOR TITLE I, ESEA SERVICES FOR CHILDREN INVOLVED IN DESEGREGATION PLANS

On page 320 of the bill, strike out lines 8 through 17 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN CHILDREN FOR CONTINUED SERVICES UNDER TITLE I OF THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT

Sec. 325. Section 141 of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(d) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, any local educational agency which implements a plan described in subparagraphs (A), (B), or (C) of section 706(a)(1) of the Emergency School Aid Act, may during the period provided in the following sentence, provide services under this title to children who need those services, and who, as a result of the implementation of that plan, are not eligible to receive those services. Such services may be provided (1) during the three school years following the implementation of the plan in the case of children who were eligible for and actually received such services prior to the implementation of that plan, or (2) during the school years ending prior to September 1, 1979 in the case of children receiving such services in the school year ending in 1976. For the purposes of this section any school which is not eligible for a project under subsection (a)(1)(A) or (a)(13) of this section but which is attended by

.

children who are eligible to receive services under this title shall not be considered to be providing services in project areas or to be a school served by a program or project for the purposes of paragraphs (3)(C) and (14) of subsection (a) of this section.

WASHINGTON

August 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

JIM CANNON DAVID LISS Follow the Child

SUBJECT:

I've edited the letter from the President to Senator Dole in response to Bob Hartmann's comments.

I've attached a copy of the marked up earlier version so you can see my changes.

In the last paragraph the reference to other aspects of the bill is at OMB request. I think the reference is unnecessary but not harmful.

As soon as the President signs the letter we will advise Max Friedersdorf, OMB and HEW.

Attachments

WASHINGTON

Dear Senator Dole:

I commend and support your interest in ensuring that these children presently being served under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are not denied the benefits of that program because their community ip pursuing a desegregation plan.

I believe that School districts pursuing voluntary desegregation plans, as well as those doing so under court order, should have the ability to "follow the child" with Title I funds. To prevent the program funds from becoming widely diffused and thereby weakening the overall effect of the program, I believe the school districts undergoing desegregation should only be able to "follow the child" with Title I funds for three years from the date the desegregation plan is initiated. I would also propose that individual children who participated in Title I compensatory education programs during the FY 1975-1976 school year should be served until July 1, 1979 without regard to the past implementation date of a desegregation plan in their community.

I have inclosed with this letter the legislative language necessary to enact my proposal.which you may wish to offer when S. 2657 is considered by the Senate. I would appreciate your support and the Senate's adoption of my recommendations on the "follow the child" issue, and those made by HEW MAAM to the Minority Leader of the Senate concerning other aspects of S. 2657.

this prof

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert J. Dole United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510



WASHINGTON

August 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ROBERT T. HARTMANN

FROM:

JIM CANNON JMC

SUBJECT:

Presidential Letter to Senator Dole

4

Attached for your approval is a letter to Senator Dole in regard to the effect of desegregation plans on Federal Compensatory Education Programs.

Thank you.

attachments

Shit menning by April "I" 1. I generally agree begins with "I" 2. Every poph begins with "I" 3. The final poph is very and 3. The final poph is really weekens and raises to the really weekens individuals. To the poph

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

August 11, 1976 THE PRESIDENT

JIM CANNON

THE EFFECT OF DESEGREGATION PLANS ON FEDERAL COMPENSATORY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Background

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) provides assistance for compensatory education programs to low-income children. Under existing law when a school district voluntarily desegregates or is ordered to do so by a court, low-income students who are transferred to different schools may no longer be eligible to receive Title I benefits because their new school has too few low-income children in attendance. The total amount of assistance to the school district remains the same; the problem is who is eligible to receive the benefits.

In several of your meetings to discuss busing the participants mentioned this problem. They spoke of the illogic of the Federal rule which restricted the use of Title I even though no additional spending was involved.

In the Senate Omnibus Education Bill (S.2657), which is scheduled to be taken up by the Senate on August 9-11, there is a provision to allow Title I, ESEA funds to "follow the child" to his new school, if the child is transferred due to a court-ordered desegregation plan.

We believe we can improve on the Senate bill approach by allowing Title I funds to "follow the child" in cases of voluntary desegregation as well. We believe, however, there should be a time limit so that funds only "follow the child" immediately following the desegregation plan for a period of three years. To cover a few school districts with special problems, we would also propose to provide three years of benefit eligibility for any child who received Title I services during school year 1975-1976 even if the district desegregated at an earlier time.



OMB and HEW concur with the proposal outlined above. It has also been cleared with the Counsel's Office, with Max Friedersdorf and with the Justice Department.

Senator Dole has been actively involved in the "follow the child" issue as it continues to be a problem in Wichita, Kansas. He will offer and actively support your proposal if it is forwarded to him.

We believe it would be appropriate for you to take personal credit for the Administration's position on this issue, especially since it was an issue raised with you at the busing meetings. Alternatively, HEW could routinely advise the Senate of the Administration's position.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend you approve the proposed Administration initiative on "follow the child" and that you sign the attached letter to Senator Dole.

Approve Disapprove

attachment

WASHINGTON

August 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO:

FROM:

DAVID LISSY JIM CANNO "Follow the Child"

SUBJECT:

The changes are insufficient.

In the memorandum to the President, and in the letter to Senator Dole, which we hope will be made public, let's be less technical and more understandable about what we are trying to accomplish.

I am sure this memorandum and letter are technically correct; but they are not likely to be understood by anyone who is not familiar with the legislation.

pending

WASHINGTON

August 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ROBERT T. HARTMANN

JIM CANNON JMC

SUBJECT:

FROM:

Presidential Letter to Senator Dole

3. The final pole is very technical and hauses Is it really becarry.

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Thank you.

Shited mennedy by April "I" I desenally agree begins with "I" 2. Every pople begins with "I" attachments

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

THE PRESIDEN JIM CANNON THE EFFECT OF DESEGREGATION PLANS

THE EFFECT OF DESEGREGATION PLANS ON FEDERAL COMPENSATORY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

chron.

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RECOMMENDATION

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Approve

Disapprove

David Lissy

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

THE PRESIDEN JIM CANNON

THE EFFECT OF DESEGREGATION PLANS ON FEDERAL COMPENSATORY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Background

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RECOMMENDATION

I recommend you approve the proposed Administration initiative on "follow the child" and that you sign the attached letter to Senator Dole.

Approve ____ Disapprove

WASHINGTON

Dear Senator Dole:

I commend and support your interest in ensuring that those children presently being served under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are not denied the benefits of that program because their community is pursuing a desegregation plan.

I believe that School districts pursuing voluntary desegregation plans, as well as those doing so under court order, should have the ability to "follow the child" with Title I funds. To prevent the program funds from becoming widely diffused, and thereby weakening the overall effect of the program, I believe the school districts undergoing desegregation should only be able to "follow the child" with Title I funds for three years from the date the desegregation plan is initiated. I would also propose that individual children who participated in Title I compensatory education programs during the FY 1975-1976 school year should be served until July 1, 1979 without regard to the past implementation date of a desegregation plan in their community.

I have Enclosed with this letter the legislative language necessary to enact my proposal.which you may wish to offer when S. 2657 is considered by the Senate. I would appreciate your support and the Senate's adoption of my recommendations on the "follow the child" issue, and those made by HEW MAMMAN to the Minority Leader of the Senate concerning other aspects of S. 2657.

as well in

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert J. Dole United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

WASHINGTON

August 25, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CANNON

FROM:

BILL DIEFENDERFER

SUBJECT:

STUDY OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

Bulducation

Unfortunately, we do not know the answers to many key questions.

The effect Federal student aid programs have on State programs is very sketchy. How Federal and State student aid programs affect the college choice process is largely unexplored. A clear understanding of how college choice is made and can be affected will go a long way to revealing the appropriate ways to help small colleges or at least allow Federal and State programs to be designed so they do not prejudice the small college in its competition for students.

The multitude of programs, both Federal and State, which presently disperse student financial aid have been the subjects of fairly detailed individual analysis, but their collective impact cannot be analyzed by adding the totals of the individual studies. When time comes to support or oppose extension of such programs in Congress very little is known about the "big picture" in financial aid so the discussion usually degenerates to how the individual programs have performed without regard to the efficiency and effectiveness of the overall effort.

The Administration has long opposed the categorical program approach; however, little has been offered other than management efficiency arguments to substantiate that a consolidated program would or would not outperform the present categorical program approach.

cc:

Art Quern David Lissy

INFORMATION Dont me von most me annuest THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON July 26, 1976 JIM CANNO MEMORANDUM FOR: FROM: DAVID LISS SUBJECT: Aid Programs Study of Student Finandi

You may recall that one of the areas where we suggested there was an opportunity for a new Administration initiative was in the area of student assistance programs. Although it will not help us in the immediate future, the Office of Education has awarded a research contract which may prove to be quite helpful in the formulation of future policies. The contract calls for a two to three year study of student financial aid programs. The study will assess the impact of federal financial aid on students, higher education institutions, and State governments.

There will actually be four interrelated studies which will:

- assess the impact of federal and State financial aid programs and policies on the decision process a student goes through in deciding whether to attend college and in selecting an institution;
- examine the way in which market conditions interact with educational costs and financial aid to influence student choices of institutions;
- analyze the complex role of financial aid in student persistence in postsecondary education; and
- examine the relationship between federal and State student aid programs and institutional practices in recruiting and admitting students and dispensing financial aid.

cc: Art Quern

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON August 30, 1976 JIM CANNON

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

BILL DIEFENDERFER

SUBJECT :

LETTER FROM BLACK COLLEGE PRESIDENTS

The President has directed that a report "on the feasibility and desirability" of the proposals contained in a letter from Dr. Robert Threatt, President of Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia, be prepared.

I have forwarded Dr. Threatt's letter for action consistent with the President's request to those indicated on the attached memorandum (Tab A). HEW and OMB have returned comments on Dr. Threatt's proposals. I have organized and edited the comments, and included them in the attached proposed memorandum from you to the President (Tab B). Art Fletcher strongly recommends the implementation of proposal #11, which would create an entity similar to the National Alliance of Businessmen to aid Black colleges.

Secretary Mathews feels that it would be inappropriate for the President to respond to the particular requests contained in Dr. Threatt's letter. The Secretary has submitted a proposed reply to Dr. Threatt from the President, a redrafted version of which is at Tab C of your memorandum to the President.

The proposed letter from the President to Dr. Threatt has been cleared by Doug Smith.

Attachments

Tab A - Addressee Memorandum w/Dr. Threatt's Letter Tab B - Proposed Memorandum from Mr. Cannon to the President Tab C - Proposed Letter from President to Dr. Threatt



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WASHINGTON

August 19, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO:

SECRETARY MATHEWS PAUL O'NEIL ART FLETCHER MARJORIE LYNCH BILL BAROODY BILL MORRILL DAN McGURK

FROM:

BILL DIEFENDERFER

SUBJECT:

Letter From Presidents of Historically Black Colleges

On August 11, 1976, the President met with the heads of several historically black colleges.

The President has since received the attached letter from participants in that meeting. The President has directed a report be prepared on the feasibility and desirability of each of the proposals contained in that letter.

To meet the President's timetable, your comments are requested by the close of business, August 25, 1976

bcc: Art Quern



Dr. Robert Threatt President Morris Brown College 643 Martin Luther King Drive, N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30314 August 11, 1976

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

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Dr. Forrest David Mathews on Wednesday, August 11, 1976 in the Cabinet Room of the White House.

We greatly appreciate your genuine interest and willingness to effectively support the historically Black public and private colleges and universities of this Nation.

We are further grateful to you and the Secretary for your historical and current contributions of the historically Black colleges and universities.

We are specifically grateful to you, Mr. President, for the commitments which you made during our meeting to assist these institutions.

In view of your positive statements and the commitments you made in the meeting of August 11, 1976, we ask your immediate follow-up and implementation of the following:

 To assure the continuance of the Advance Institutional Development Program, Title III, and to develop explicit and succinct plans for future long-range funding at a level substantially above the present level of funding. (The authorization level of this program is currently at \$120 million dollars. Currently, funding is \$10 million dollars below the authorized level.)

2. To assure removal of restrictions on AIDP programs, Title III program guidelines and regulations, and to permit and encourage the use of AIDP funds for fund-raising from the private sector. (Historically, use of Title III funds were permitted for direct fund-raising.)

3. To direct the Secretary of HEW to withdraw the application of the HEW loan limiting agreement of the federally insured loan program upon the historically Black colleges and universities. (The applications of the HEW loan limiting agreement will deny loans to thousands of new and former students whose only access to higher education is through existing loan programs.)

- To direct the Secretary of HEW to maximize all aspects of student financial assistance to aid low-income students in having access to opportunities in higher education.
- To direct the Secretary of HEW to fully support and give assistance in developing the appropriate legislation for the proposed <u>Patterson Endowment Plan</u> to assist historically Black colleges and universities.

- 6. To direct the Secretary of HEW to immediately establish a Secretary's Task Force made up of presidents of historically Black colleges and universities to fully explore with the Secretary how HEW may give maximum funding support to the subject institutions from existing HEW programs, and to explore new legislation needed to assist the historically Black colleges and universities.
- 7. To direct the Secretary of HEW to explore ways and means within existing programs to provide immediate funding to support graduate education in historically Black colleges and universities and to further explore needed new programs or legislation that would give substantial support for graduate education in these institutions.
- 8. To personally express your positive interest, concern, and wishes for immediate and affirmative support of the historically Black colleges and universities to all Cabinet officers. We specifically ask that each Cabinet officer immediately seek to make funds available from his office to the subject universities.
- 9. To express your personal support of the historically Black colleges and universities to key persons in the corporate and business community as well as among foundations and private philanthropists. This expression would make clear the intent of the Federal Government to include historically predominately Black colleges and universities as a vital component, in the long-range plans of higher education for the national community.
- 10. To express your personal support of the historically Black colleges and universities to the leadership of the private, business and corporate sectors of the Nation; and, we petition that you specifically request in behalf of the subject colleges and universities that private gifts given to the historically Black colleges and universities be increased from the present amount of approximately 1% of all gifts to higher education to at least 10% in 1977-78.
- II. To consider an amendment to the Executive Order creating the National Alliance of Businessmen or issue a new Executive Order which would specifically establish an organic unit of business corporations which would be targeted on the development of historically Black colleges and universities. (This may be developed by adding a new section to the NAB Executive Order.)
- 12. To further carry out your interest in the subject colleges and universities, we ask you to immediately establish the President's National Advisory Committee on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. This committee would be composed of the presidents of these institutions who would be accessible to you for advice on issues relevant to these Black colleges and universities and on higher education in the national community.

As additional evidence of your most positive support of the subject colleges and universities, we ask your immediate actions in the following tangible assistance:

A. We ask you to immediately make available through the U.S. Office of Education a one-time incentive grant of not less than \$100,000 to each accredited historically Black college and university to assist in support of the institutions' most crucial present need. (The total amount of not more than 11 million dollars could be allocated from present funds available in HEW.)

B. We ask you, Mr. President, to request each Cabinet officer in your Administration to thoroughly explore ways and means by which his department can provide some immediate funding for the historically Black colleges and universities. We further ask that the sum of 30 million dollars be made available immediately through existing channels of authority and programs in these departments to assist the historically Black colleges and universities. (This amount would represent less than 3 million dollars per Cabinet department, excluding HEW.)

Mr. President, we the college and university presidents who met with you on August 11, 1976, were greatly impressed with your sincere, genuine, positive attitude and your desire to assist the historically Black colleges and universities. We left the meeting with a distinct feeling that you t made definite commitments to us and that you have a positive interest in exploring additional ways to assist us. We will be waiting with keen anticipation, as we know

that you will act positively on the above items.

We are deeply grateful to you, Mr. President, for meeting with us. We also thank you for investing so much time listening to our message on behalf of Black colleges and universities. We are counting on you to help our cause; please let us hear from you.

Sincerely yours, Robert Thirdt

Robert Threatt, Chairman Committee on Black Colleges and The Third Century Dr. A. I. Thomas, Co-Chairman Dr. Mabel McLean, Secretary Dr. Herman R. Branson Dr. Oswald Bronson Dr. Milton K. Curry, Jr. Dr. Luther H. Foster Dr. Archie Hargraves Dr. Charles L. Hayes Dr. Thomas D. Jarrett Dr. Charles A. Lyons Dr. James Luther Myers Dr. Macco Nance, Jr. Dr. George A. Owens Dr. John A. Peoples Dr. Prezell R. Robinson Dr. Granville Sawyer

- Dr. M. A. Southerland
- Dr. Herman Stone

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Tab B

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 31, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

FROM:

Letter From Presidents of Historically Black Colleges

You have directed that a report on the feasibility and desirability of the proposals contained in the attached letter (Tab A) from Dr. Robert Threatt, President of Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia, be prepared for your consideration. The comments of OMB, HEW and the Domestic Council on each of the proposals have been summarized (Tab B) for your review.

In a number of the proposals in Dr. Threatt's letter, the request is made that programs be enacted or the Secretaries of the various Departments act in some manner to specifically aid historically black colleges.

In brief, most of the items they request simply cannot be done without raising serious questions of constitutionality in that they would discriminate in favor of black colleges. If not clearly unconstitutional, these items would certainly cause other private colleges and other minority groups to demand similar treatment.

Secretary Mathews strongly believes that it would be inappropriate for you to respond to particular requests contained in the letter. He has been working on the various issues and believes it is essential that these colleges continue to work through him. He believes that he is in the best position to deal with the constitutional questions, the concerns of other private colleges and the demands of other minority groups. The proposed response for your signature (Tab C) reflects Secretary Mathews' views on the handling of this matter.

RECOMMENDATION

I concur with the suggestion of Secretary Mathews and recommend you sign the letter at Tab C.

Attachments

Tab	Ά		Dr.	Robert	Threatt	Letter
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- Tab B Dr. Threatt's Proposals and Comments on them
- Tab C Proposed Letter of Response from You to Dr. Threatt
 - (The letter has been cleared by Bob Hartmann's office.)

#14. We ask you, Mr. President, to request each Cabinet officer in your Administration to thoroughly explore ways and means by which his Department can provide some immediate funding for the historically Black colleges and universities. We further ask that the sum of \$30 million be made available immediately through existing channels of authority and programs in these Departments to assist the historically Black colleges and universities. (This amount would represent less than \$3 million per Cabinet Department, excluding HEW.)

COMMENT

You could appropriately request each Cabinet officer to concern himself with a review of research and other grants being awarded under existing legislation to ensure that historically Black colleges are fairly represented. The Committee proposed by Secretary Mathews might fruitfully focus-in on the needs and strengths of Black colleges and opportunities available to them through agencies other than HEW.

Targeting a predetermined amount of money, e.g., \$30 million, in advance of identification of programs and research that could be handled well at Black colleges, would be inadvisable. #13. We ask you to immediately make available through the U.S. Office of Education a one-time incentive grant of not less than \$100,000 to each accredited historically Black college and university to assist in support of the institutions' most crucial present need. (The total amount of not more than \$11 million could be allocated from present funds available in HEW.)

COMMENT

The funds presently available through the Office of Education are categorical funds. General grants for unspecified purposes are not possible under any existing higher education legislation. In any case, prudent public policy would preclude the distribution of \$11 million without a clear agreement on needs to be addressed and objectives of such grants.



#12. To further carry out your interest in the subject colleges and universities, we ask you to immediately establish the President's National Advisory Committee on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. This Committee would be composed of the Presidents of these institutions who would be accessible to you for advice on issues relevant to these Black colleges and universities and on higher education in the national community.

COMMENT

The COMMENTS on Proposal #6 are applicable to this Proposal.

#11. To consider an amendment to the Executive Order creating the National Alliance of Businessmen or issue a new Executive Order which would specifically establish an organic unit of business corporations which would be targeted on the development of historically Black colleges and universities. (This may be developed by adding a new section to the National Alliance of Businessmen Order.)

COMMENT

Creating an organization similar to the National Alliance of Businessmen to assist in the development of historically Black colleges is very desirable. Some Black colleges have begun to initiate corporation sponsorship or "cluster" programs on their own. The encouragement of such relationships by Executive Order would be a step to increasing the communication between the business world and Black colleges. Such increased communication will serve to identify the needs of business and how historically Black colleges can meet those needs. #10. To express your personal support of the historically Black colleges and universities to the leadership of the private, business and corporate sectors of the Nation; and, we petition that you specifically request in behalf of the subject colleges and universities that private gifts given to the historically Black colleges and universities be increased from the present amount of approximately 1 percent of all gifts to higher education to at least 10 percent in 1977-78.

COMMENT

It is not desirable for you to support preferential treatment of historically Black colleges. However, it would be entirely proper for you to publically recognize the contributions of historically Black institutions to our Nation, and recognize their right and need to participate fully in its gratitude and bounty. #9. To express your personal support of the historically Black colleges and universities to key persons in the corporate and business community as well as among foundations and private philanthropists. This expression would make clear the intent of the Federal Government to include historically predominantly Black colleges and universities as a vital component in the longrange plans of higher education for the national community.

COMMENT

The student enrollment of historically Black colleges is predominantly Black which has led to accusations of discrimination against whites. HEW reports that the Office of Civil Rights has been examining historically Black colleges to determine if appropriate application of civil rights laws are warranted. Having noted the above, it would be proper and desirable for you to publically recognize the outstanding role historically Black colleges have played in the past, and emphasize the important role such institutions must play in the future. #8. To personally express your positive interest, concern, and wishes for immediate and affirmative support of the historically Black colleges and universities to all Cabinet officers. We specifically ask that each Cabinet officer immediately seek to make funds available from his office to the subject universities.

COMMENT

Funding from several agencies and Departments flows to the historically Black colleges and universities. In addition to the programs in the Office of Education (i.e., basic grants, work study, guaranteed loans, national direct student loans, supplemental grants, developing institutions, special programs for the disadvantaged), several other agencies such as the National Science Foundation and the Department of Agriculture provide funds to these institutions. The Federal Inter-Governmental Committee on Education reports, however, that Federal support to Black colleges outside of the Developing Institutions Program is relatively minor.

It would be appropriate for you to express your desire that historically Black colleges participate fully in Federal programs open to participation by colleges and universities, and that any road blocks to full and proper participation be eliminated. #7. To direct the Secretary of HEW to explore ways and means within existing programs to provide immediate funding to support graduate education in historically Black colleges and universities, and to further explore needed new programs or legislation that would give substantial support for graduate education in these institutions.

COMMENT

It has not been the policy of the Administration to provide institutional assistance for graduate education in general, let alone a set-aside level of support for a particular set of schools. The graduate education process is aided through general student assistance and through the awarding of research grants and contracts. There is no objection to having HEW and historically Black colleges jointly explore existing programs to facilitate increased participation by Black colleges. However, we do not believe that any set of schools should be guaranteed a substantial level of funding for graduate education purposes. #6. To direct the Secretary of HEW to immediately establish a Secretary's Task Force made up of presidents of historically Black colleges and universities to fully explore with the Secretary how HEW may give maximum funding support to the subject institutions from existing HEW programs, and to explore new legislation needed to assist the historically Black colleges and universities.

COMMENT

Secretary Mathews has taken steps to establish a Committee which would be concerned with, among other things, the issues raised in Dr. Threatt's letter. Such a Committee might be enlarged to include, as well as college presidents, representation from the boards of trustees, faculty, and students of public, private, four-year and two-year Black colleges. Criteria to be applied to the membership of the Committee could also include age, geography, sex, and research and higher education background. #5. To direct the Secretary of HEW to fully support and give assistance in developing the appropriate legislation for the proposed <u>Patterson Endowment</u> Plan to assist historically <u>Black</u> colleges and universities.

COMMENT

The Administration has given much thought in recent months to the formulation of plans for assisting selected developing institutions in the creation of endowments of sufficient size so as to produce significant institutional income through endowment investments. A great deal of this attention has focused on the College Endowment Funding Plan (CEFP) developed by Dr. F. D. Patterson of the Robert R. Moton Institute.

In general, the proposed Patterson Endowment Plan would have a one-quarter Federal grant component, matched by a one-quarter private contribution component, and one-half Federal loan guarantee component. The plan would include 110 Black colleges. Conservative estimates of the cost of this proposal are \$1/2 billion in Federal grants, and \$1 billion in loan guarantees. OMB notes that there is no dollar limit placed on the proposal. In addition, questions of equity and the precedent established by having the Federal Government involved in building endowments arise. #4. To direct the Secretary of HEW to maximize all aspects of student financial assistance to aid low-income students in having access to opportunities in higher education.

COMMENTS

The Administration has and will continue to support programs that assist low-income students in obtaining access to opportunities in higher education. The Basic Educational Opportunity Grant Program will assist an estimated 1.3 to 1.4 million needy students in obtaining a higher education in academic year 1976-77. #3. To direct the Secretary of HEW to withdraw the application of the HEW loan limiting agreement of the federally insured loan program upon the historically Black colleges and universities. (The applications of the HEW loan limiting agreement will deny loans to thousands of new and former students whose only access to higher education is through existing loan programs.)

COMMENT

There has been no loan limiting agreement imposed by the Office of Education specifically upon the historically Black colleges and universities. Credit limits are established for all unregulated lending institutions (which may include colleges and State agencies which are lending institutions). The policy reason behind limiting the amounts of money a school can lend to its students through the Guaranteed Student Loan Program is one tailored to reduce fraud, defaults, and other abuses. Loan limiting agreements are placed on individual schools when their fiscal solvency is questionable or their default rates are high. This type of regulation is in the best interest of the schools, students and loan program, and should be continued. #2. To assure removal of restrictions on Advance Institutional Development Programs (AIDP), Title III program guidelines and regulations, and to permit and encourage the use of AIDP funds for fund-raising from the private sector. (Historically, use of Title III funds were permitted for direct fund-raising.)

COMMENT

Statutory provisions prohibit the direct use of Federal funds to procure additional funds. As it is not permissible for colleges to deposit student aid funds in interest-bearing accounts, it is likewise impermissible to use Federal funds for direct fund-raising activities, such as engaging a professional fund-raising firm.

However, changes to Title III regulations have been drafted in response to recent legal interpretations to permit and encourage the use of AIDP funds to train college development officers and related staff in the skills necessary to organize, strengthen, and/or implement fund-raising activities for the grantee institution.

PROPOSALS

#1. To assure the continuance of the Advance Institutional Development Program, Title III, and to develop explicit and succinct plans for future long-range funding at a level substantially above the present level of funding. (The authorization level of this program is currently \$120 million. Currently, funding is \$10 million below the authorized level.)

COMMENT

This Administration has supported the Advance Institutional Development Program. The Developing Institutions Program has expanded from \$52 million to \$110 million. An evaluation of the effectiveness of the Developing Institutions Program is presently being prepared. Increases in funding levels should depend on the evaluation results and general funding demands placed on the budget. In the past the Administration has supported student assistance as preferable to institutional assistance. Unless there is to be a change in this philosophy, the expansion or creation of categorical institutional aid programs might be undesirable in that it would be inconsistent with past Administration policy.

Dear Dr. Threatt:

I want to thank you and the members of your Committee for your very thoughtful letter of August 11. I was impressed again by the importance of this Nation's historically Black colleges and their contributions to our national well being and to the leadership of our country.

You have raised candidly a number of important issues, most of which are currently under consideration by the Administration. Others would require new initiatives.

Secretary Mathews has reported to me on these issues, and I know he is personally very concerned about these matters of such great interest to you. He has a number of thoughts about action the Administration might take, and I have asked him to continue to work closely with you and your colleagues.

My best wishes to you and your colleagues.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Threatt Chairman Committee on Black Colleges and The Third Century 643 Martin Luther King Avenue, N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30314

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 31, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Letter From Presidents of Historically Black Colleges

You have directed that a report on the feasibility and desirability of the proposals contained in the attached letter (Tab A) from Dr. Robert Threatt, President of Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia, be prepared for your consideration. The comments of OMB, HEW and the Domestic Council on each of the proposals have been summarized (Tab B) for your review.

In a number of the proposals in Dr. Threatt's letter, the request is made that programs be enacted or the Secretaries of the various Departments act in some manner to specifically aid historically black colleges.

In brief, most of the items they request simply cannot be done without raising serious questions of constitutionality in that they would discriminate in favor of black colleges. If not clearly unconstitutional, these items would certainly cause other private colleges and other minority groups to demand similar treatment.

Secretary Mathews strongly believes that it would be inappropriate for you to respond to particular requests contained in the letter. He has been working on the various issues and believes it is essential that these colleges continue to work through him. He believes that he is in the best position to deal with the constitutional questions, the concerns of other private colleges and the demands of other minority groups. The proposed response for your signature (Tab C) reflects Secretary Mathews' views on the handling of this matter.

RECOMMENDATION

I concur with the suggestion of Secretary Mathews and recommend you sign the letter at Tab C.

Attachments

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Tab A - Dr. Robert Threatt Letter

Tab B - Dr. Threatt's Proposals and Comments on them

Tab C - Proposed Letter of Response from You
to Dr. Threatt
(The letter has been cleared by Bob Hartmann's office.)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 16, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CANNON

FROM:

SUBJECT:

JIM CONNOR JE F

Letter from Black College Presidents

The attached letter from Dr. Robert Threatt, President of Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia was returned in the President's outbox with the following notation:

> "I would like a report by my return on the feasibility and desirability of each of these proposals. <u>Domestic Council and/or HEW.</u>"

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Dick Cheney Jack Marsh

Dr. Robert Threatt President Morris Brown College 643 Martin Luther King Drive, N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30314 August 11, 1976

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

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Dr. Forrest David Mathews on Wednesday, August 11, 1976 in the Cabinet Room of the White House.

We greatly appreciate your genuine interest and willingness to effectively support the historically Black public and private colleges and universities of this Nation.

We are further grateful to you and the Secretary for your historical and current contributions of the historically Black colleges and universities.

We are specifically grateful to you, Mr. President, for the commitments which you made during our meeting to assist these institutions.

In view of your positive statements and the commitments you made in the meeting of August 11, 1976, we ask your immediate follow-up and implementation of the following:

 To assure the continuance of the Advance Institutional Development Program, Title III, and to develop explicit and succinct plans for future long-range funding at a level substantially above the present level of funding. (The authorization level of this program is currently at \$120 million dollars. Currently, funding is \$10 million dollars below the authorized level.)

2. To assure removal of restrictions on AIDP programs, Title III program guidelines and regulations, and to permit and encourage the use of AIDP funds for fund-raising from the private sector. (Historically, use of Title III funds were permitted for direct fund-raising.)

3. To direct the Secretary of HEW to withdraw the application of the HEW loan limiting agreement of the federally insured loan program upon the historically Black colleges and universities. (The applications of the HEW loan limiting agreement will deny loans to thousands of new and former students whose only access to higher education is through existing loan programs.)

- 4. To direct the Secretary of HEW to maximize all aspects of student financial assistance to aid low-income students in having access to opportunities in higher education.
- 5. To direct the Secretary of HEW to fully support and give assistance in developing the appropriate legislation for the proposed <u>Patterson Endowment Plan</u> to assist historically Black colleges and universities.

-2-

- 6. To direct the Secretary of HEW to immediately establish a Secretary's Task Force made up of presidents of historically Black colleges and universities to fully explore with the Secretary how HEW may give maximum funding support to the subject institutions from existing HEW programs, and to explore new legislation needed to assist the historically Black colleges and universities.
- 7. To direct the Secretary of HEW to explore ways and means within existing programs to provide immediate funding to support graduate education in historically Black colleges and universities and to further explore needed new programs or legislation that would give substantial support for graduate education in these institutions.
- 8. To personally express your positive interest, concern, and wishes for immediate and affirmative support of the historically Black colleges and universities to all Cabinet officers. We specifically ask that each Cabinet officer immediately seek to make funds available from his office to the subject universities.
- 9. To express your personal support of the historically Black colleges and universities to key persons in the corporate and business community as well as among foundations and private philanthropists. This expression would make clear the intent of the Federal Government to include historically predominately Black colleges and universities as a vital component, in the long-range plans of higher education for the national community.

- 10. To express your personal support of the historically Black colleges and universities to the leadership of the private, business and corporate sectors of the Nation; and, we petition that you specifically request in behalf of the subject colleges and universities that private gifts given to the historically Black colleges and universities be increased from the present amount of approximately 1% of all gifts to higher education to at least 10% in 1977-78.
- II. To consider an amendment to the Executive Order creating the National Alliance of Businessmen or issue a new Executive Order which would specifically establish an organic unit of business corporations which would be targeted on the development of historically Black colleges and universities. (This may be developed by adding a new section to the NAB Executive Order.)
- 12. To further carry out your interest in the subject colleges and universities, we ask you to immediately establish the President's National Advisory Committee on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. This committee would be composed of the presidents of these institutions who would be accessible to you for advice on issues relevant to these Black colleges and universities and on higher education in the national community.

As additional evidence of your most positive support of the subject colleges and universities, we ask your immediate actions in the following tangible assistance:

A. We ask you to immediately make available through the U.S. Office of Education a one-time incentive grant of not less than \$100,000 to each accredited historically Black college and university to assist in support of the institutions' most crucial present need. (The total amount of not more than 11 million dollars could be allocated from present funds available in HEW.)

B. We ask you, Mr. President, to request each Cabinet officer in your Administration to thoroughly explore ways and means by which his department can provide some immediate funding for the historically Black colleges and universities. We further ask that the sum of 30 million dollars be made available immediately through existing channels of authority and programs in these departments to assist the historically Black colleges and universities. (This amount would represent less than 3 million dollars per Cabinet department, excluding HEW.)

Mr. President, we the college and university presidents who met with you on August 11, 1976, were greatly impressed with your sincere, genuine, positive attitude and your desire to assist the historically Black colleges and universities. We left the meeting with a distinct feeling that you made definite commitments to us and that you have a positive interest in exploring additional ways to assist us.

We will be waiting with keen anticipation, as we know that you will act positively on the above items.

We are deeply grateful to you, Mr. President, for meeting with us. We also thank you for investing so much time listening to our message on behalf of Black colleges and universities. We are counting on you to help our cause; please let us hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Threatt

Robert Threatt, Chairman Committee on Black Colleges and The Third Century Dr. A. I. Thomas, Co-Chairman Dr. Mabel McLean, Secretary Dr. Herman R. Branson Dr. Oswald Bronson Dr. Milton K. Curry, Jr. Dr. Luther H. Foster Dr. Archie Hargraves Dr. Charles L. Hayes Dr. Thomas D. Jarrett Dr. Charles A. Lyons Dr. James Luther Myers Dr. Maceo Nance, Jr. Dr. George A. Owens Dr. John A. Peoples Dr. Prezell R. Robinson Dr. Granville Sawyer Dr. M. A. Southerland Dr. Herman Stone

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 1976

JIM CANNON 'P b ()

MEMORANDUM TO: ART QUERN

FROM:

Jim Mitchell of OMB thinks that we should ask George Humphreys to take over the responsibility for liaison with the Indian groups. He believes that the proposed person to do this is not the best person. I have no strong feeling one way or the other about it. Would you talk to him and get his reaction?

Thanks.

Second item, Art. David Mathews called me the other day and was very concerned about a letter that had been written from the black college presidents who were in here to the President with language directing the Secretary of HEW to do several things. Mathews' problem with it was that it had been drafted by Calhoun and group and that many of the things that he was being "directed to do" were already well underway. Further, he thought it was somewhat unseemly that he, Mathews, was being "directed" and that the letter requested other Cabinet members to do things. Would you see if you can get it from either Mathews' office or Calhoun's office and have a look at it to see if they did go overboard a bit on it?

> Kris-Did ale aller get This letter

Thanks.



August 13, 1976

Dr. Charles "A" Lyons, Jr. President National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education 2001 S Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20009

Dear Dr. Lyons:

Pursuant to our invitation last November to the Presidents of the historically Black colleges to join us in seeking closer ties with the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and the Office of Education, I have initiated action to establish an advisory committee for that purpose.

Pending approval of a charter and budget for this advisory committee by the Office of Management and Budget, I would like to move ahead with discussion of the particular issues we have had under consideration. I would appreciate it if you would suggest the names of several individuals who might participate in these discussions on a consultant basis initially, and later, perhaps as members of the ten or twelve person advisory committee.

Dr. Joffre Whisenton will contact you in the near future to solicit your views on a proposed charter for the advisory committee.

Most cordially, ecretary

cc:

The Honorable James M. Cannon The Honorable John C. Calhoun Mr. Miles Mark Fisher



THE WHITE HOUSE

INFORMATION

file

WASHINGTON

August 31, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

FROM:

AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS UNDERGOING DESEGREGATION

During the course of the busing meetings a number of educators expressed to you their concern about the legal limitations on the use of federal funds for programs for disadvantaged students who in the course of desegregation are transferred to schools not eligible for such funds. The total amount of funds the school district received would be unchanged, but the funds could not be used for the same children. The argument was advanced that the funds (Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act) should be allowed to "follow the child." You expressed concern about this problem.

I thought you would be pleased to know that last week the Senate adopted an amendment to the Omnibus Education Bill which would allow Title I funds "to follow the child." Senator Pearson introduced an Administration supported amendment which would have allowed Title I funds to "follow the child" for up to three years where either court ordered or voluntary desegregation plans were in effect. Opposition by civil rights groups concerned by what they saw as a possible lessening of the impact of the program if funds could be dispersed over a broader area led to modifications in the proposal. As MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT Page 2

adopted, the amendment would permit only those funds in excess of FY 77 levels to "follow the child." The three year restriction was also eliminated, but that poses no serious problem.