

The original documents are located in Box 35, “6/16/76 - Remarks Upon Signing H.J. Res. 92: Publication of Economic and Social Statistics for Spanish Americans” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, LADIES AND

GENTLEMEN. LET ME ADD A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THE WHITE HOUSE TO THE
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
HISPANIC AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO ARE MEETING IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK.

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I MET MANY OF YOU AT THE SWEARING-IN OF

SAM MARTINEZ (Mar-TEE-nez) A FEW WEEKS AGO

AND IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

TODAY, I LOOK FORWARD TO SIGNING HOUSE JOINT
RESOLUTION 92, A MEASURE WHICH EMPHASIZES THE NEED
FOR A SOUND PROGRAM OF FEDERAL STATISTICS CONCERNED
WITH THE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT.

THESE AMERICANS REPRESENT AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION

AND INFLUENCE / NOT ONLY TO THE ENRICHMENT OF OUR SOCIETY /

BUT TO ITS CONTINUING GROWTH AND PROSPERITY.

MEXICAN-AMERICANS, PUERTO RICANS,
CUBAN-AMERICANS, AND OTHER SPANISH ORIGIN AMERICANS
HAVE SERVED THIS NATION WITH HONOR IN PEACE AND IN WAR.
TO ASSIST THEM IN PARTICIPATING FULLY IN ALL ASPECTS
OF AMERICAN LIFE, MORE ADEQUATE AND ACCURATE INFORMATION
IS REQUIRED.

SUCH INFORMATION, GATHERED THROUGH THE MAJOR
STATISTICAL PROGRAMS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT,
CAN HELP PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR ACTION TO ASSIST AMERICANS
OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT IN ACHIEVING A BETTER LIFE.

THE MAJOR FEDERAL STATISTICAL AGENCIES IN H.E.W.,
THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, COMMERCE AND OTHERS, / ALREADY GATHER
AND PUBLISH MUCH OF THE DATA REQUIRED, AND HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT
IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR EFFORTS TO ASSURE THAT SUCH NEEDED
INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE.

HOWEVER, WE CAN DO BETTER AND I APPLAUD
THE ADDITIONAL IMPETUS THAT WILL COME ABOUT AS A RESULT
OF THE ENACTMENT OF THIS RESOLUTION.

LET ME THANK ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE WORKED TO BRING
THIS RESOLUTION TO COMPLETION.

IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT WE IN GOVERNMENT LISTEN TO IDEAS OR
CONCERNS EXPRESSED FROM OUTSIDE GOVERNMENT / AND THAT WE MAINTAIN
A CONSTANT DIALOGUE WITH THE MANY PARTS OF OUR DYNAMIC AND
DIVERSIFIED SOCIETY. YOUR EFFORTS AND YOUR DEDICATION MOVE US
ALL INTO A BRIGHTER AND MORE SATISFYING FUTURE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

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