

PASO

Political Association of Spanish-speaking Organizations

3303 Parkwood ~~Drive~~, Houston, Texas 77001-21

(713) 659-5461 ext. 236

LA PRENSA

Friday, April 14, 1978

2A

Mexican-American Opinion

by Gilberto Rico

MEMO

April 24, 1978

To: P.A.S.O. Membership
From: Hector J. Garcia
Re: April Meeting

As you can see our good friends at La Pensa gave us some very positive press. This is a result of hard work by many people in our organization. Are you doing your share?

With the primary only a week or so away much work needs to be accomplished. Our headquarters is located at 3702 N. Main and I am making an appeal to you and yours to come out and give a couple of hours. Our organization can only be as strong as the willingness of the membership to give of their time.

I would like to call a meeting to discuss the strategy for Election Day please make plans to attend. the details are as follows.

DATE: Tues. May 2, 1978

PLACE: 3702 N. Main, Law offices or
Reyes/Barrera

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

P.S. We are now operating the headquarters, come out any evening.

P.A.S.O., the Political Association of Spanish-Speaking Organizations, has made its official endorsement of candidates for the upcoming political battles, beginning with the May 6 primaries.

We support P.A.S.O., and we support its endorsed candidates.

P.A.S.O. is a mature, responsible organization with experienced political leadership at the helm. P.A.S.O. contains within its ranks the best and most representative cross-section of Mexican-American leadership in Houston.

Membership in P.A.S.O. is open to all segments of the community. To be a member of P.A.S.O. you do not have to own a beer joint, have lots of money, or have a famous name. You must, however, be willing to stand up and be counted, and share the heavy workload in order to secure political gains for the Mexican-American community as a whole.

Of course, other latino political groups pop out once in a while, usually at election time, and usually under such catchy Ethnic names as "Amigos for Joe Blow," "Latinos for whoever," and "Viva whatsisname." These dummy groups, however, are set up primarily to divide the Mexican-American vote, and to lessen its impact at the polls. An "endorsement" from such dummy groups is meaningless, and largely negative in its effect.

When P.A.S.O. endorses a candidate, it means something; it means that that candidate not only has commendable leadership qualities, but also that the candidate has supported the Mexican-American community in the past, and will continue doing so in the future.

And let's face it: when the chips are down, when the time comes to take a risk, to stand up for the rights of Mexican-American people, all the "amigos," the "latinos," and the "vivas"—every last damn one of them—are conspicuous by their absence. In times of crisis, only the P.A.S.O. leadership, and the P.A.S.O. membership, are willing to stand up, to be counted, in defense of the Mexican-American community.

P.A.S.O. is a Mexican-American creation. It is the most sophisticated instrument, the most potent weapon, Chicanos have developed to survive in the political jungle that is Houston, Texas. If you are a Mexican-American living in Houston, think about it. Consider the alternatives. And then do what you think is right.

If politics is your bag, join P.A.S.O.

If you confine your political activities to voting, lend your support to P.A.S.O.-endorsed candidates.

Make your vote count...for all of us.

Hector Garcia
Chairperson

John E. Castillo
Co-Chairperson

Peter Armato
Executive Secretary

Esther Campos
Treasurer

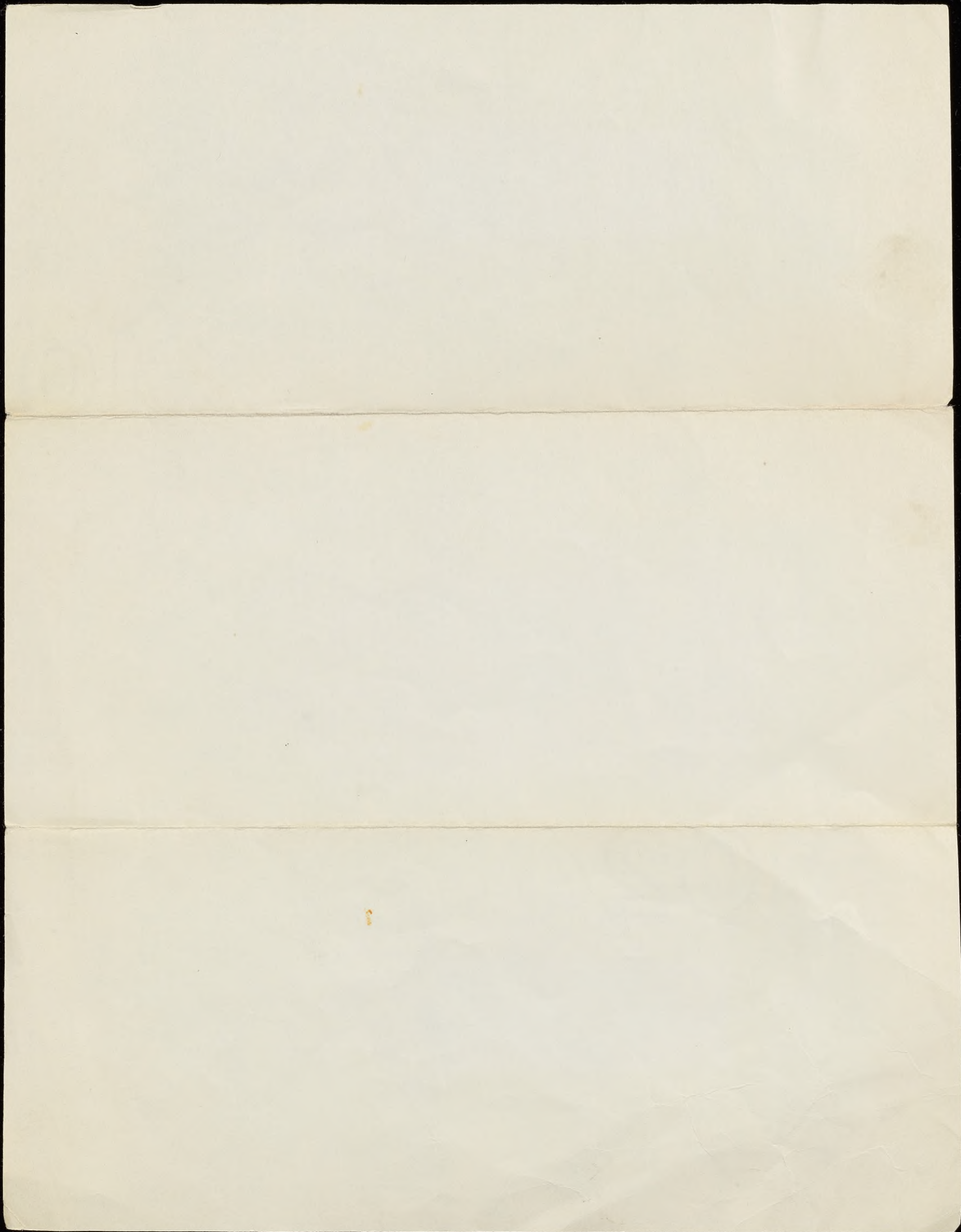
Marta Diaz
Recording Secretary

Connie Acosta
Parliamentarian

Frumencio Reyes
Legal Advisor

Debbie Garza
Chaplain

Dario Arellano
Sergeant at Arms



1126 Weaver
Houston Tex

3

Ac

PASO



Maria Lopez
6442 Sharpview
Houston, Tx. 77036

