

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS  
SOUTHERN DIVISION, DALLAS OFFICE  
*Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas*  
1999 BRYAN STREET, SUITE 2600  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75201 (214) 880-2459  
(214) 880-3082 FAX

MAY 23 2000

Mr. Clay Johnson  
Executive Assistant  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I am pleased that our collaborative efforts have resulted in the "Texas Commitment," signed by Governor George W. Bush on May 11, 2000. Enclosed is the final, fully executed "Texas Commitment" with signatures affixed of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights and the Enforcement Director for the Southern Division as well as myself, Director of the Dallas Enforcement Office. I have been encouraged by the progress of our cooperative endeavor in the development of the document. By this letter, I am very pleased to accept the Commitment on behalf of the United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR).

The initiatives identified in the "Texas Commitment" will provide a framework for the State's development of the "implementation plan." That plan will encompass those specific measures designed to address issues of concern identified to the State regarding its higher education system, consistent with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and *United States v. Fordice*, 505 U.S. 717 (1992). We anticipate that the successful implementation of measures developed as a result of this process will be effective in strengthening the role of the State's historically black institutions (Prairie View A&M University and Texas Southern University), rendering them attractive to all students, regardless of race, color or national origin and also will assist the State in fulfilling its commitment to ensuring equal access to high quality education for all of its citizens.

OCR looks forward to continuing to work collaboratively with the State in the coming months and to the development and implementation of the final State "implementation plan."

Very truly yours,

Taylor D. August  
Director, Dallas Office

*Our mission is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the Nation*