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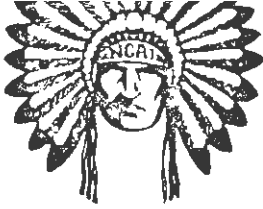
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Mr. Morton Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Morton;

I am writing to request your assistance in a problem within the Department of Education.

In June of 1982, the Department of Education announced in the Federal Register that it had been approved for the development of a Native American Rehabilitation Center. This announcement had been approved by Secretary Bell.

Subsequently, the Department did announce a request for proposals to establish the Center.

It has now come to our attention that the National Institute of Handicapped Research which manages the program will announce that none of the proposals submitted met the specifications and will cancel the program.

I feel that this is a very wrong decision and will hurt those Indian people this program was designed for. This program was specially advocated for by Senator Schmidt of New Mexico.

I would appreciate your assistance in contacting the Department of Education officials involved in this matter. The Native American Handicapped Research Center is under the National Institute of Handicapped Research. The Director is Mr. Darrell Long whose phone number is 245-0565. This department is directly responsible to the Office of Special Education whose Director is Mr. George Conn.

I would appreciate anything you could do in this matter.

Respectfully,

Ronald P. Andrade  
Executive Director

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