



MEXICAN AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1005 Congress Avenue, Suite 1020, Austin, TX 78701 TEL (512) 236-8410 FAX (512) 236-8402

January 26, 2007

The Honorable Rick Perry
Governor, State of Texas
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Dear Governor Perry:

We are deeply disappointed in your response to the indefensible actions of Ted Nugent, your inaugural ball performer. We ask you to issue an apology for the inappropriate conduct of your invited guest; particularly the offensive comments he directed at the Hispanic community.

According to one publication, your guest used "faux machine guns as props," in his performance, wore "his Confederate battle flag shirt," and he made racially insensitive and incredibly derogatory remarks "about non-English speakers".¹

We do not need to remind you that Mr. Nugent was invited by *you* to celebrate *your* inauguration. His comments are necessarily a reflection upon you and your public office. We are at a loss as to how you reconcile Mr. Nugent's offensive comments with your own inauguration speech made just hours before his unfortunate performance.

You preached tolerance, acceptance and equality in your inauguration speech. You said, "*I know illegal immigration and border security are polarizing issues. To those on both sides of the issue, I simply make one request based on the words of the prophet Isaiah: 'come now, and let us reason together.' Let us choose to sit down together and be a part of the solution rather than a source of division.*"²

¹<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/texasouthwest/stories/011907dntexnugent.51525fc7.html>

²http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/press/speeches/speech_011607

January 26, 2007

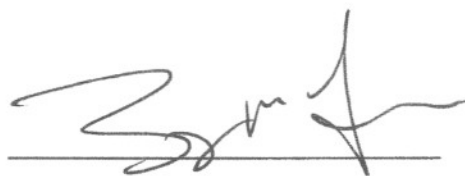
These words ring rather hollow in light of your unwillingness to distance yourself from the divisive remarks and offensive actions of your guest. Your silence is deafening.

In your speech you rightly suggested that *"even when we disagree, we can engage our differences in a discussion that unifies rather than divides, that lifts up the hopes, dreams and aspirations of all people without casting a single soul aside."*¹ Governor, these offensive actions and comments of your guest are intended to do just the opposite; they are intended to divide rather than unite.


We ask for an immediate and unequivocal apology directly from you for the inappropriate conduct, offensive words, and indefensible actions exhibited by your invited guest.

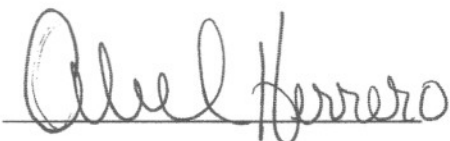
Sincerely,

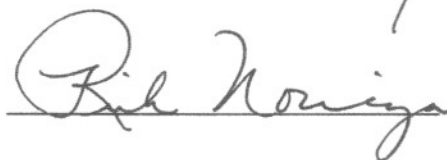


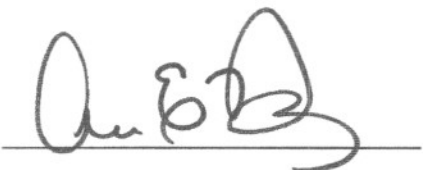


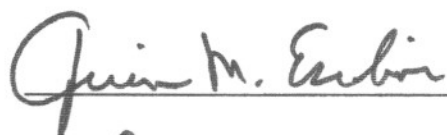


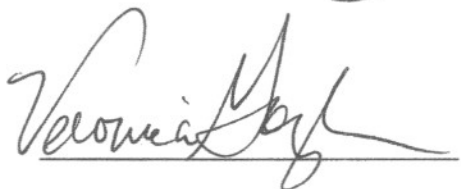


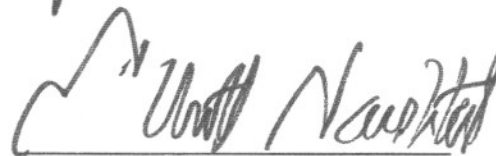


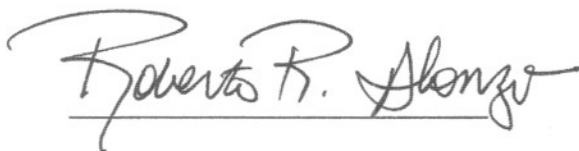














¹ http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/press/speeches/speech_011607

January 26, 2007

