

PARENTS MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY COMMITTEE, LOS ANGELES AREA
P. O. Box 2212, Culver City, California 90232

The Parents Mississippi Emergency Committee, Los Angeles Area, which includes the parents of 57 Southern California student volunteers to the 1964 Freedom Schools and Voter Registration campaign in Mississippi, is deeply concerned that the more than 400,000 presently disenfranchised Negro citizens of Mississippi have not heretofore been permitted any participation in the political processes governing their country and their State.

THEREFORE:

BECAUSE we, as parents, have had an opportunity to learn from our own sons and daughters what are the personal effects upon Negro citizens of their long and systematic exclusion from any effective control of their own lives and destinies; and

BECAUSE of the unconstitutional methods by which the Mississippi Democratic Party has selected its delegation to the National Convention of the Democratic Party; and

BECAUSE of the overwhelming evidence gathered by the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party of the desire of Negro citizens to participate in the political scene:

THEREFORE, we urge that the National Democratic Convention of 1964 seat the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party delegation at this Convention, rather than the delegation of the so-called Democratic Party of Mississippi.

As parents, we hope that our sons' and daughters' heroic efforts during the Summer of 1964, and our own alternating fear and pride, will be rendered truly effective by this action.

As citizens, we urge that democracy be extended still further across the United States through this recognition of the only genuinely democratic Party in our most recalcitrant "democratic" State.

Respectfully submitted,

PARENTS MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY
COMMITTEE, LOS ANGELES AREA

Arthur Carstens, Chairman

August 17, 1964