

# FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC CLUBS

28 E. JACKSON BLVD. ● CHICAGO, ILL. 60604 ● PHONE 922-0186

December 14, 1964

Dear Member,

The Freedom Democratic Clubs of Illinois has joined with the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party in a great new battle for freedom, challenging the seats from that state's delegation to Congress. The challenge states that the 4 Democrats and 2 Republican who claim election to the House of Representatives on Nov. 3 were fraudulently chosen in an election from which Negroes were barred from voting. It asks that these men not be seated in January.

The Freedom Democratic Clubs has pledged full cooperation with the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party in the mobilization of national support for this challenge. You will recall that our first project as an organization was to publicize and rally support for the MFDP's fight for representation at the Democratic National Convention. The new "Mississippi Challenge" is another opportunity to help unseat the racists. This can only be done by bringing pressure on our Congressmen to support the challenge in every way open to them.

The next target date in this campaign is Jan. 4. At this time Congressmen can vote not to seat the challenged persons until the House takes final action, and after all steps required by the law under which the challenge has been filed are met. This means we must act quickly, to arrange delegations, letter-writing and phone calls to Congressmen. We ask you to take on that responsibility in your own district, through your local Freedom Democratic Club. Organize a delegation, plan club activity among neighbors, friends and co-workers to involve them in delegations and letter-writing. Your Congressman must know of your community's support for the challenge. Do not be concerned about the duplication of delegations; the more constituents your Congressman hears from, the better.

Enclosed is an outline of the points you will want to raise when you see your Congressman; also enclosed is a sample copy of a letter explaining the Mississippi Challenge and how it can be furthered.

More copies are available so you may leave it with the people to whom you talk about the challenge. As you bring this campaign to your community, remember the great financial burden involved and urge contributions to MFDP for this purpose.

The Mississippi Challenge presents a challenge to the Freedom Democratic Clubs as well. Let us know immediately how you will help. I will be glad to offer any and every assistance that you feel might be necessary. Please call me at the above number; I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

*Albert Raby*

Albert A. Raby,  
Chairman  
Freedom Democratic Clubs

FOR FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC CLUB DELEGATIONS:

1. To support the challenge of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.
2. To be a co-sponsor of a Fairness Resolusion reading as follows:

"Be it resolved that pending the final decision of the House of Representatives in the contest and challenge to the seats from Mississippi, no person claiming those seats shall be allowed to take oath until this contest or challenge is decided by the House."

3. To vote for this reslution whether or not he will agree to sponsor it.
4. To vote to request a roll call vote on all issues concerning the challenge from the opening Fairness Reslution to the final vote on the challenge.

A communication from the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party states:

"It is possible that your Congressman will not be willing to do all four of these things. They are listed in the probable order of greatest support for the challenge. In other words, if your Congressman is willing to agree to the first request, then it follows that he should be willing to agree to all four. On the other hand, a Congressman may not be willing to support the challenge until all the evidence is in, but yet he may be willing to request a roll call vote on all issues."

You are urged to keep a careful record of your interview, noting the points your Congressman does or does not support, and exactly what he has committed himself to do. To enable the Freedom Democratic Clubs of Illinois to keep a record of every Congressman's response, please let us know the results of your visit immediately. We shall forward this information promptly to the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party Offices.

ISSUED BY: FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC CLUBS OF ILLINOIS

28 EAST JACKSON BLVD., CHICAGO, ILL. 60604

PHONE: 922-0186

ALBERT RABY, CHAIRMAN

A MESSAGE FROM THE FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC CLUBS OF ILLINOIS

Dear Neighbor,

The Freedom Democratic Clubs of Illinois has joined with the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party in a great new battle for freedom. The MFDP has motivated a campaign to challenge the right of the Dixiecrats to sit in Congress - because Negroes were prevented from voting in Mississippi on November 3, and these men therefore do not represent the choice of a free election, as provided for in the U.S. Constitution.

YOU can do something RIGHT NOW to help the cause of freedom in Mississippi, and to help rid the whole U.S. of racists in Congress. You can get in touch with our Congressman, to remind him you helped to elect him to office, and to ask him to VOTE AGAINST SEATING the racist "Congressmen" from Mississippi when Congress meets again on January 4.

If enough Congressman vote against seating these illegally "elected" persons - they will not be seated;

WRITE YOUR LETTER TODAY. HELP MISSISSIPPI - HELP YOURSELF!

The name of our Congressman is \_\_\_\_\_

His address is \_\_\_\_\_

TELL HIM YOU WANT HIM TO VOTE AGAINST SEATING THE DIXIECRATS!

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We invite you to join the Freedom Democratic Club in this area.

For more information, write or call:

FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC CLUBS OF ILLINOIS, 28E. Jackson Blvd., Chicago 4, Ill.  
Telephone: 922-0186

ALEXANDER M. BARKER, CHAIRMAN