

August 3, 1965

Dear FDP Member,

The Challenge of the five Mississippi Congressmen is entering its final stages. Last February, depositions were gathered across the state of Mississippi. The depositions made very clear the fact that most Negroes in Mississippi are excluded from the voting process in the state. This information has been combined with other evidence of massive disenfranchisement of Mississippi Negroes gathered by the Justice Department, the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights and others. The evidence was then taken by FDP lawyers and used to write the legal argument for the unseating of the Mississippi Congressmen. This Brief and other information concerning the Challenge are now in the hands of the House Subcommittee on Elections. The subcommittee is very conservative because most of the congressmen on it are congressmen from the South. To get the Challenge out of the hands of the subcommittee and to bring the Challenge to a vote, we must place great pressure on the Congress. The most powerful form of pressure on the Congress will be YOU. Your right to vote and to participate in the political process is the issue that the House is voting upon. So your presence here in Washington will make the Challenge real. You will remind the Congress, as no one else can, of the seriousness of the Challenge. Through your presence in Washington, the Congress will know that the eyes of the nation are on them and that a vote for the Challenge is a vote for just government for all people.

Enclosed is a report covering recent events here in Washington. We hope that this will bring you up to date on the news.

We are sending you in a separate envelope recent publications concerning the Challenge.

We need more names and addresses of FDP members so we can send more information to more people in Mississippi.

See you soon..

FREEDOM!  
Washington FDP