

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY  
306 Ivey St., Plaquemine, La. 687-9131

For immediate release..... July 1, 1964

Due to the fact that over 400,000 Negroes have been disfranchised in Louisiana by the discriminatory application of rigid and unconstitutional voter registration laws, Negro leaders in several La. parishes have found it essential to demand equal representation through mock registration. Within the past two years over 10,000 Negroes have applied for registration in the 5th and 6th Congressional Districts alone and of that number a little over 2,000 have been successfully registered by biased registrars.

To bring an immediate end to this un-American conspiracy by Louisiana politicians to restrict Negro suffrage, the Negro leaders of the 5th and 6th Congressional Districts have met and decided to dramatize to the world the Negro struggle to get full access to the ballot by commencing as of this date a freedom registration campaign.

As a part of freedom registration a petition in the form of a registered letter has been sent to Gov. John McKeithen.

Freedom registration consists of getting every unregistered Negro voter to fill out a simplified version of the state application form in the presence of a freedom registrar. To achieve this end, the following freedom registrars have been appointed to serve the following parishes:

1. St. Helena -- David Howard
2. Tangipahoa -- Loria Davis
3. East Feliciana -- Christine Wright
4. West Feliciana -- Robert Gilmore
5. Pointe Coupee -- Sargent Caulfield
6. Ouachita -- Roscoe Young
7. Jackson -- W. C. Flannigan
8. Madison -- Velma Wylche
9. Iberville -- Spiver Gordon

The campaign shall be in effect for at least 30 days and after which the freedom registrars will attempt to have their freedom applications filed with the local parish registrars for actual registration.

Ronnie M. Moore  
Field Secretary,  
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