334 Auburn Ave., N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30303 Telephone 522-1420

Southern Christian Leadership Conference

Martin Luther King Jr., President

Ralph Abernathy, Treasures

Andrew J. Young, Executive Director

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February 9, 1966

Mr. Paul Anthony Southern Regional Council 5 Forsyth Street, N. W. Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Anthony:

I am glad that VEP has resumed the Voter Education Project and although this is a belated answer to your announcement, I want you to know that I have kept in touch with Vernon Jordan and have written for him an endorsement of the Project.

The Voting Rights Bill must still be implemented, and we still have the exorbitant costs of registering people throughout the South, so the additional help from VEP will certainly be appreciated.

It might also be interesting and helpful for VEP to do a report to the nation on the Voting Rights Bill and its effects. Several newspapers have done this, but no one with a kind of objective analysis and interpretation which I think the situation requires. The nation should know that counties where federal registrars have been placed have registered 60-70 per cent of their eligible Negro voters.

We still have a big job to do, and we need all the help we can get from foundations, civil rights agencies and governmental sources.

We are looking forward to VEP beginning action as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dictated by Dr. King, but signed in his absence.

Km