March 9, 2015

RE: Letter opposing the President’s increase to the Department of Education’s (“USDOE”) Office of Civil Rights (“OCR”) budget submitted by Commission colleagues

Dear Distinguished Members of Congress,

As Chairman and the official spokesperson of the eight-member U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (the “Commission”), I write to inform you that the letter submitted to your offices opposing the President’s increase to the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights by two of my Commission colleagues does not represent the official position of the Commission. As an eight-member, bi-partisan commission, statements made on behalf of the Commission and expressing Commission opinion require a majority vote.

The letter submitted on Commission letterhead on February 26, 2015, was not presented to the Commission body for a vote, and, therefore, does not represent the position of the Commission on the President’s proposal. The letter should not be given the weight of the position of the Commission as a whole.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Martin R. Castro
Chairman

Cc: USDOE