

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

**ScholarWorks @ UTRGV**

---

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers -  
Newsletters

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers

---

8-12-1971

## Newsletter - 1971-08-12

E. De la Garza

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.utrgv.edu/kikadelagarzanews>



Part of the [State and Local Government Law Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers - Newsletters, UTRGV Digital Library, The University of Texas – Rio Grande Valley

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers at ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. It has been accepted for inclusion in Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers - Newsletters by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. For more information, please contact [justin.white@utrgv.edu](mailto:justin.white@utrgv.edu), [william.flores01@utrgv.edu](mailto:william.flores01@utrgv.edu).

FOR RELEASE: 12 August 1971

FROM: Kika de la Carza

92-292

WASHINGTON, D. C. -- South Texans have reason to feel encouraged by the section of the Sugar Act recently passed by Congress which makes provision for another 100,000 tons of domestic sugar cane production outside the established cane area. It is my hope that our area will provide a major part of this production, if not all of it, thus adding another valuable crop to our agricultural economy.

The additional production will be needed. Many competent sugar authorities, both private and in government, predict that within the next two or three years world sugar production will lag behind world consumption. World sugar shortages seem to occur in about one out of every six or seven years. However, U. S. consumers have been protected through the operation of the Sugar Act. This has resulted in stable sugar prices through the years since 1934, except for 15 months in 1963-64, when a world shortage caused U. S. prices to rise above world prices. The sugar price index has generally been lower and more stable than prices in the years from 1860 to 1934, before passage of the Sugar Act.

The law has three basic goals: (1) to assure American consumers adequate supplies of sugar at reasonable prices; (2) to maintain a healthy and competitive U. S. sugar industry; and (3) to promote U S export trade, in connection with which it is significant that our largest Western Hemisphere suppliers of sugar are also our most important purchasers of agricultural commodities.

This year's bill, extending the main principles of the law that has operated so successfully since 1934, was passed first by the House and now has been passed by the Senate, with the assistance of our two Texans in that body, Senators Lloyd Bentsen and John Tower. The sugar program is unquestionably one of the most complex and far-reaching subjects on which Congress must legislate. It is gratifying that this year's law contains a provision that may turn out to be of great benefit to our area.

The enactment of this legislation will be the first major hurdle overcome. Sometime after the President signs the Sugar Bill into law the United States Department of Agriculture will call a public hearing to listen to all areas interested in getting the new sugar cane allotment present their cases in support

of this effort. This is when interested sections of the country present well documented exhibits to show primarily that they have an irrevocable capital commitment to handle all costs concerned with construction of a mill, etc., and the capability to grow sugar cane as well as proof of an available market therefor. The USDA normally gives 30 days notice of the hearing date, another 30 days to file briefs, and the Secretary of Agriculture makes his decision on the allocation of the allotment thereafter. This administrative action is a long drawn out affair -- but with the life of the Sugar Act set at three years this time all interested parties are urging the USDA to exercise total speed. We have come a long way in the Valley already and now we present our case along with other localities in the country who want that sugar allotment too.

\* \* \*

BUSINESS AS USUAL -- In fact, more than usual. During the August recess of Congress while I am in Korea with the Speaker of the House of Representatives attending a Parliamentarians' conference with the General Assembly of Korea, the 15th Congressional District of Texas will operate from both our local office in McAllen at 801 Quince, where my Washington administrative assistant, Celia Hare Martin, will be in charge, and from my Washington office at the Cannon House Office Building. I am most fortunate in having an efficient staff, dedicated wholly to the interests of South Texans, at your service either in Washington or McAllen.

\* \* \*

HELPFUL HOME LOAN -- A new program operated by the Federal Home Loan Board makes it possible for the Federal government to contribute \$20 a month toward a conventional home loan for a family--young or elderly--whose income is between \$7,000 and \$12,000 a year. This subsidy is provided for the first five years on a maximum loan of \$25,000, but an eligible family can buy a home priced up to \$25,700 if it can make a cash payment for the difference.

Details about this program can be obtained from a participating savings and loan association, which must process the FHLB application and make the loan.

The program does not apply to loans underwritten by the Federal Housing Administration or the Veterans Administration.

\* \* \*

VISITORS -- Visiting my office this week were Mrs Julius T Jefferds of Brownsville; Mr and Mrs Dean Bowen and their children, Cindy, Brad and Scott, of Pharr and Mrs Vera Teague, also of Pharr; SFC and Mrs Leonel Garza and their sons, Leonel, Jr, and Luis Jaime, of Rio Grande City; Dr Bruno Trevino of Rio Grande City, now living in Washington; and Mr and Mrs R C Ramirez of Zapata.

\* \* \*