

NEWS FROM...

# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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WASHINGTON - January 29, 1979 - Representatives of Spanish and Asian language speaking Americans have been appointed to membership on the Federal Election Commission's Clearinghouse Advisory Panel. They are Mr. Al Perez, General Counsel of the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and Mr. Henry Der, Executive Director of Chinese for Affirmative Action. As members of the panel, they will help advise the FEC on the best ways to use its resources to help improve the administration of elections throughout the nation.

In approving the appointments, the Commission points out that Mr. Perez has dealt extensively with election officials in Texas, California, Arizona and New Mexico, and is knowledgeable about election law and administration. The Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund which, is headquartered in Washington, is regarded generally as one of the nation's largest and most influential Spanish language groups.

The Chinese for Affirmative Action, which Mr. Der serves in San Francisco, is the largest Asian language group in the United States, and he has worked closely with local election officials both on the West and East Coasts.

Both Mr. Perez and Mr. Der presently are members of the Clearinghouse Bilingual Panel and have made major contributions in assisting the Commission with its project relating to bilingual election and registration activities as required by the Voting Rights Act of 1975.

A comprehensive survey of the 400 jurisdictions covered by the Act and of the various applicable minority language groups already has been completed, and a manual for election administrators containing information on developing effective bilingual registration and voting programs are being prepared for consideration of the Federal Election Commission.