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PLEASE RESPOND TO  
OFFICE CHECKED:  
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 NEW YORK

December 30, 1975

Mr. Alfred Giardino  
Chairman  
Board of Education  
535 East 80th Street  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Mr. Giardino:

It has come to my attention that there is a possibility that Hostos Community College may be forced to close due to the financial crisis of New York City. I write you at this time to urge you to do all that you can to save this vital institution.

As you know, there is a significantly large Hispanic population in our City. If this group is ever to attain parity in all aspects of life with the rest of the City, education is the vehicle through which this objective can be achieved. Since Hostos provides its students with the only bi-lingual education program in the East; its closing would present a severe obstacle to those Hispanic students who aren't conversant in English but who seek to carry on their education.

I believe it is extremely important for the leaders of our society to make certain that a person's thirst for knowledge isn't quashed because of his or her inability to pay for such education. New York has always subscribed to this notion and I would hope that we will continue.

I appreciate your time on this matter and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Charles B. Rangel  
Member of Congress

CBR:kmb  
cc: The Save Hostos Committee