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March 3, 1969

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Honorable Ivan Allen, Jr.
Mayor
City of Atlanta
City Hall
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mayor Allen:

The February meeting of the Community Relations Commission was held this past Friday, February 28th, and a substantial portion of the meeting was taken up with discussion of the so-called "welfare payments freeze."

There was a great amount of confusion as to just exactly what was involved in the "freeze." However, it appears that the federal government presently plans to restrict welfare grants to the states beginning July 1, 1969, which would in turn cause some reduction in the payments to individual recipients. It was the strong consensus of the Community Relations Commission that any reduction in the individual welfare payments - particularly in the summer month of July - would increase unrest and the possibility for general trouble in the community.

It is clear that the whole question of the "freeze" needs to be studied and clarified, and I have asked the staff of the Commission to undertake such a study. I have also talked with Dan Sweat this morning who is also studying the matter.

Honorable Ivan Allen, Jr.
March 3, 1969
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If the problem exists as it now appears, the Commission will be available to assist you in any way in attacking the problem.

Sincerely,

Byron Attridge
Vice-Chairman
Community Relations Commission

BA:jmb

cc: Reverend Sam Williams
cc: Mr. Nat Welch
cc: Mr. Dan Sweat