

P.O. Box 7724
Atlanta 23, Georgia
August 1, 1963

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

My dear Mayor Allen:

I was quite pleased to read in the morning newspaper that the mail was running 2 to 1 in favor of your stand on the Administration's Civil Rights Bill. I would like to add another letter in support of your stand.

A native Georgian, I am white as are the four other men in my office. I can speak for all of them, as I do for myself, in our support of your position on the aforementioned bill. We are not for "socialism" anymore than is the membership of the Chamber of Commerce, and feel as strongly about the preservation of free enterprise as anyone, but but too many businessmen either lack the courage or the sense to exercise their full responsibility to the community. Thus we share your opinion that we need the law to ensure responsible action.

Many Atlantans have been very proud of their Chamber of Commerce and their newspapers in their handling of the racial situation. But this pride has been tarnished by their lack of support of the civil rights bill. It is their action that strongly points up your argument that we need the law to keep from backsliding.

Oh, what words of hate will that hypocrite from the Pickrick have for you this Saturday!

My salute to a true Christian and American with the courage of just convictions, a Mayor that Atlanta can be damn proud of.

Sincerely,
Baldwin B. Hansen
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