

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2805

September 10, 2003

National Black College Reunion
Las Vegas, Nevada

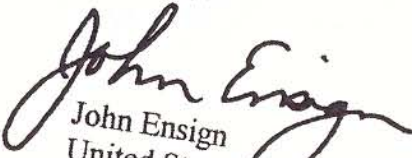
Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Las Vegas for the First Annual Education and Economic Empowerment Symposium, "*The Road to Educational Excellence*." I hope that, during your time here, you will be able to enjoy some of the many experiences our beautiful city has to offer.

I commend you on focusing your efforts on the complex issues and difficult challenges involved in ensuring the education, and subsequent economic empowerment, of young people of color. A special thank you to Secretary of Education Rod Paige for his participation, and congratulations to those whom you have chosen to honor for their exceptional commitment to education and those who are being recognized as education and economic empowerment role models.

On behalf of the southern Nevada community, thank you for choosing us as the location for your conference. Please accept my sincere best wishes for what I am confident will be a successful and memorable event.

Sincerely,


John Ensign
United States Senator