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5/16/83 - Copy to R.L. Kennedy 5 May 1983

To: President Harold T. Shapiro / W Vice-President Jon Cosovich Vice-President James F. Brinkerhoff Vice-President Bill E. Frye

From: Regent Sarah Goddard Power

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PRODUCT'S Orthod

Attachment

SGP:ba

Re: Divestment



PERRY BULLARD

MICHIGAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL BUILDING LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909 1517) 373-1289

April 28, 1983

CHAIR, JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE MEMBER OF:
TAXATION

PIT NO

100 1 3 2 2 3

ERTON US

Ms. Sarah Goddard Power, Regent The University of Michigan 527 East Liberty Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

Dear Sarah:

I would like to thank you for your recent vote in support of Regent Dunn's resolution to divest University of Michigan funds from corporations operating in the Republic of South Africa. With that vote, the University of Michigan took its rightful place, along with Harvard, the University of Wisconsin, and other universities, as a leader in the movement to end South African apartheid. In fact, as I'm sure you know, the University of Michigan divestiture represents the largest divestment action taken by any public university in the nation.

Although you and I continue to differ as to the constitutionality of Michigan's anti-apartheid law, I do respect your position. Academic freedom is the cornerstone of any great university and any democratic society. I share your view that any minimal threat to that freedom could ultimately result in the destruction of the university's integrity. The anti-apartheid law is not, however, in any way related to the academic freedom of the university. It is simply an attempt to establish a socially responsible investment policy for public schools.

Anyway, I am thankful for your support, and I am confident that our state pension funds will soon be divested from South Africa-linked corporations, so that the state of Michigan can join its most prestigious university on the side of justice.

Once again, thank you!

Sincerely,

PERRY BOLLARD, Chair House Judiciary Committee

PB:sjs