

**James Powell “J.P.” Word Official Memorandum [commending the  
higher education system of Texas, 12<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District], September  
20, 1969:  
A Guide**

**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Word, James Powell “J.P.”, 1929-2009

**Title:** James Powell “J.P.” Word Official Memorandum [commending the higher education system of Texas, 12<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District], September 20, 1969

**Inclusive Dates:** 1969

**Abstract:** The official memorandum documents an activity of James Powell “J.P.” Word in his role as Governor-for-a-Day on September 29, 1969. In the one-page memorandum, Word commends the higher education system of Texas especially the educational institutions located in Senatorial District 12.

**Identification:** UA41

**Extent:** 1 folder (1 item)

**Shelf location:** SC2, Folder 1

**Language(s):** Collection is in English.

**Repository:** Tarleton State University, Dick Smith Library, Archives and Special Collections, Stephenville, Texas

**Biographical Note**

James Powell Word was born on June 24, 1929 in Bosque County, Texas and grew up in Meridian, Texas. His parents were Charles Kirby and Rosemary Dorman Word. As a teenager, Word worked as a roughneck in the oilfields of West Texas. From 1950 to 1953 he served in the U.S. Army in Korea. He was in the 302<sup>nd</sup> Military Intelligence Corps.

After Word returned from Korea, he attended Baylor University and earned a law degree in 1958. That same year Word practiced law in Meridian and was elected County Judge of Bosque County. In 1963, Word was elected to represent Senate District 12 in the Texas State Senate. While serving in the Senate, he introduced legislation creating the Tuition Equalization Grant Program (TEG Program), which helps qualified students attend private Texas colleges and universities at state university tuition rates. Word was elected President Pro-Tempore of the Senate in 1969 and served as Governor-for-a-Day on September 20, 1969. He retired from the Senate in 1973 and worked as a lawyer and lobbyist in Austin, Texas.

Word married Bobbye Warren of Meridian on April 11, 1953. They had two sons and a daughter: Charles B. Word; James P. Word, Jr.; and Amy Word Michalowski. Word died in Austin on October 12, 2009 and was buried at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, Texas.

**Sources:**

Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home North. “Former State Senator James Powell Word.” Accessed October 15, 2020. [http://wcfish.tributes.com/obituary/print\\_selections/88612740?type=1](http://wcfish.tributes.com/obituary/print_selections/88612740?type=1)

## **Scope and Contents**

The official memorandum documents an activity of James Powell "J.P." Word in his role as Governor-for-a-Day on September 29, 1969. In the one-page memorandum, Word commends the higher education system of Texas especially the educational institutions located in Senatorial District 12. The colleges named in the memorandum include Tarleton State College, Howard Payne College, Southwestern Union College, Hill Junior College, Schreiner Institute, Central Texas College, and Southwestern Assemblies of God College. The memorandum includes a gold, embossed seal and Word's signature.

## **Rights and Access**

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### **Physical Access Restrictions**

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## **Index Terms**

### **Persons**

Word, James Powell, 1929-2009

### **Organizations**

Tarleton State College

### **Subjects**

State government publications

Universities and colleges

**Places**

Austin (Tex.)  
Stephenville (Tex.)

**Administrative Information**

**Preferred Citation**

James Powell "J.P." Word Official Memorandum [commending the higher education system of Texas, 12<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District], September 20, 1969, UA41, SC2, Folder 1, Tarleton State University, Dick Smith Library, Archives and Special Collections, Stephenville, Texas.

**Processing Information**

Finding aid prepared by Phyllis Kinnison, 2020.

**Note to the Researcher**

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