

We already have such programs as Mobilization for Youth and JOIN which have Federal support and which are pointed in directions similar to those in which the pending bill is pointed. So is the Manpower Development Training Act and the Vocational Education Act, recently approved by Congress.

In other words, we in New York City do not look at the Equal Opportunity Act, in itself, as either a bonanza or a cure-all. But it does sound a trumpet which, added to those which hopefully will be sounded in all the communities and regions of the country, will collectively signal an effort which can make a genuine impact on the problem. That is our hope. It must be our determination.

Chairman POWELL. Thank you, Mr. Mayor, for your most excellent presentation. I am very happy you referred to the Domestic Peace Corps because that was an experiment, a pilot project that grew out of the juvenile delinquency program authored by the gentlelady from Oregon, Mrs. Green, and which in testimony here the other night before this committee was explained in detail by Mr. Wingate, showing how it has worked.

I would like to ask a couple of questions. No. 1, it has been said that local government should take the initiative in dealing with the problem of poverty. In your opinion, why have not local governments taken the initiative before?

Mayor WAGNER. Mr. Chairman, I would say that I can only speak about New York City. I think local governments have had to take the initiative for a good many years.

As I pointed out here, we do spend a great deal of money at the present time, even without any Federal assistance or State assistance, we pay a pretty large bill in this battle, but we do feel that the further assistance that we could receive and the direction and cooperation of the Federal Government would be very, very helpful. It is just enlarging on areas that we have already worked on and also working on the new programs that would possibly ensue from a bill of this type where the Federal Government in many instances would pay 90 percent and the locality 10 percent.

As you know very well, very few localities haven't financial problems, the ability to raise enough money to meet the demands and the necessities of the people in the area.

Chairman POWELL. I was not referring to New York, because I know you have done a wonderful job. In fact, some of the projects that have come out of this committee you have been carrying them almost totally for the past few months, such as the Domestic Peace Corps. You have had a pretty good program for that since December.

Next I would like to ask, do you think there will be any problem in New York City in getting young people to enter the residential centers?

Mayor WAGNER. Well, I think that it is going to be a job to sell them on the benefits of such a program; that is, the ones I suppose that you have to get, the hard core, and they are the ones we do find a problem even in our training programs that we do get underway. Surprisingly enough, when we opened up some of these area offices under the joint program, we were overwhelmed by the number of young people who came in for training. We actually didn't have the physical facilities to handle it.