

Mr. PERKINS. Mayor, what is your preference? Would you prefer to commence reading your statement at this time?

Mayor DALEY. If possible, I would like to return to our city as fast as I can.

Mr. PERKINS. All right, you may proceed.

First, Mayor Daley, I wish to welcome you here. I regret that Congressman Pucinski had to go to the White House and is not able to introduce you, but we are delighted to have you with us.

STATEMENT OF HON. RICHARD J. DALEY, MAYOR, CHICAGO, ILL.

Mayor DALEY. Thank you very much.

I wish to express my appreciation to the chairman and members of this committee for this opportunity to testify with regard to the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, the legislation recommended by President Johnson to carry out the proposed war on poverty. As mayor of Chicago I am here to give full support to House of Representatives bill 10440—a bill to mobilize the human and financial resources of the Nation to combat poverty in the United States.

This committee has already heard considerable testimony citing national statistical and technical data demonstrating the need for the enactment of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. But many times the use of technical material and national statistics of sociological definitions and statements of economic trends and projections seek to cloud what we are all primarily concerned with; what the program means to people.

In support of this legislation, my remarks will be directed to describing programs which are being carried on in Chicago; which, I believe, demonstrate convincingly the contributions that the President's program can make to improve the economic and social well-being of one-fifth of our American families who live in poverty.

Further, in some instances these programs are being conducted only in Chicago, and in others Chicago is a pioneer in seeking to expand and improve public and private programs to provide greater economic opportunity for all Americans.

One of the pilot programs in the Nation, launched last October, is called Job Opportunity Through Better Skills—known as JOBS. It is a cooperative program being conducted almost entirely by three private agencies: the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago, the Chicago Boys Clubs, and Chicago's Youth Centers cooperating with such public and private agencies as the Illinois State Employment Service, the Cook County Department of Public Aid, Chicago Commission on Youth Welfare, and the Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago.

This year-long project, first and largest of its kind, is financed by the Federal Manpower Development and Training Act. The pilot project is designed to help the 1,000 youth, many of whom lacked the equivalent of a sixth grade education, reach the necessary education level of employment—to acquire some job skill experience, and, finally, be placed in employment.

JOBS represents a special attack on the unemployment problems of the disadvantaged youth. Most of the trainees are between the ages of 17 and 21, most dropped out of high school their second year, and most were classified as "functional illiterates" when they entered