

I support the proposals under title I for community work-training programs and work-study programs, sections 111 and 122.

I believe the Urban Conservation Corps can be correlated, at the local level, with both the work-training and work-study programs. And, all three of these programs can be locally controlled, providing a better atmosphere for the training and education of young people and a more careful control over the expenditure of the public funds involved.

I generally support title II, "Urban and Rural Community Action Programs." However, I ask that section 204, financial assistance for conduct and administration of community action programs, paragraph (d), "Eligibility for Assistance," be broadened. The present criteria or incidence of poverty appear to possibly limit assistance only to communities which have severe existing poverty problems.

Communities such as Syracuse, which do not have severe poverty problems, nevertheless should be eligible to develop programs which would not only eliminate existing poverty problems but, equally important, eliminate the seeds of poverty, thus preventing poverty from taking root and growing anew in the community.

The purpose of the legislation should be to prevent the poverty of the future as well as to end the poverty of the present.

Under this same section, I ask that paragraph (a), "Special Consideration to Eventual Self-Supporting Community Action Programs," be strengthened. The sooner these programs become a complete local responsibility—both administratively and financially—the sooner Federal funds can be used to assist other needy communities, and local control can be completely guaranteed.

Also, under Title II, I recommend that section 203, "Financial Assistance for Development of Community Action Programs," be strengthened to guarantee 100 percent Federal assistance for local research projects leading to the development of community action programs.

To eliminate poverty we must understand the causes of poverty. These causes are varied across the Nation and in each community. The present and/or potential cause of poverty in Syracuse certainly must differ in kind, size, scope, and intensity from the causes of poverty in a multimillion-person metropolis or a rural farm area—indeed, these causes probably differ in degree from one middle-size city to another.

If we are to succeed in our crusade for opportunity in Syracuse, if we are to root out the seeds of poverty, we must know the exact causes, we must deal in detailed specifics not in indefinite generalities. Only through sound research can we obtain the answers we need for success. I believe the general purposes of the legislation will be better served if the Federal Government can completely guarantee the funds needed to conduct sound research programs on the local level.

I also ask that section 206, under this title, "Research, Training, and Demonstrations," be broadened to specifically allow institutions of higher learning to work with public agencies in performing the research needed to develop community action programs.

I generally support title IV—employment and investment incentives—part A, incentives for employment of long-term unemployed persons, section 411. The concept of long-term, low-interest loans to firms that employ long-term unemployed persons is a good one. However, the section should be expanded to explain, in detail, the firm's responsibilities under the legislation, for example: The length of employment of a long-term unemployed person hired as a result of a loan under this section. It should also include a section on training unemployed people so they can adequately perform their jobs. This includes not only skill training, but remedial education as well.

Also, section 412, paragraph (b), should be strengthened to more tightly integrate loans granted under title IV with the community action program activities outlined in title II. This would help to assure more local control in the administration of this proposal.

We believe that the bill as proposed is also lacking in other respects. For example, there are many aged people in our population who are living on grossly inadequate incomes and whose problem as long as they live will become increasingly desperate. Every time the cost of living goes up, or real estate and other taxes increase, their real income decreases proportionately—and there is no way whatsoever that they can supplement these incomes. I would strongly recommend additional and broader social security coverage at the earliest pos-