

would be valuable to both young women and young men of the 16-to-21 age group.

TITLE II. URBAN AND RURAL COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS

The individual members of the American Parents Committee have varied interests in their States and communities which are reflected in the legislative goals adopted by the board. It is gratifying to us to find in title II new authority to mobilize Federal, State, and local resources to encourage a coordinated effort toward solving many social and economic problems.

The wide discretionary powers allowed communities in planning, backed by financial assistance, offers great hope for the success of many of our objectives. The offer of the Federal Government to pay up to 90 percent of the costs for the first 2 years and up to 75 percent thereafter and the administration focus on poverty, with special emphasis on educational services, employment and health projects, will undoubtedly spur activity in areas that have limited State and local resources.

May I say, parenthetically, that the Federal Government, I understand, collects three-quarters of all the taxes collected in America and the States and local communities only collect about one-quarter. Our organization is deeply concerned about the education of children and youth. There are great opportunities under title II for strengthening existing educational programs and establishing new ones in this field. These could include (1) training for preschool children; (2) classes in remedial reading and intensive instruction in writing and arithmetic for those in elementary and secondary school age; (3) special projects for potential dropouts; (4) centers for day care, after-school study, after-school tutoring, and summer academic classes; and (5) the badly needed projects to extend educational services to migrant children.

While we have emphasized the needs and our hope for action on educational services we also recognize the importance of expanded activity in fields of health, welfare, vocational education, and employment included in this title.

We foresee difficulties and delays in getting the proper leadership and coordination in some areas but believe the pattern of coordination established by the creation of the Office of Economic Opportunity may extend to the States and the communities.

TITLE VI. ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION

The American Parents Committee approves of the provision of title VI which establishes the Office of Economic Opportunity in the Executive Office of the President, headed by a Director appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. We support the approach which empowers the Director to coordinate the existing Federal agency poverty-related programs and gives him authority to carry out new programs including the Job Corps, the community action program and the volunteers for America program. We have felt for some time that many programs designed to benefit youth have been hampered by the lack of coordination of the Federal agencies