

administering them. It is important to stop any duplication of programs among the various Federal agencies.

The Economic Opportunity Act provides for a many-sided program administered by quite a number of different Federal agencies. I have heard considerable criticisms of certain details of the act, but virtually everyone with whom I have talked about it applauds the fundamental purpose of the act and favors the act as a whole. I urge that the act be passed at this session of the Legislature even though it is not perfect. If the Congress in the early 1930's had delayed enacting the Social Security Act until it was generally agreed to be perfect, it might never have become law. It was enacted and it has been improved by amendments many times.

I urge that the Economic Opportunity Act be voted upon favorably at this session of Congress, and that as defects are discovered and improvements suggested it be amended next session and, if necessary, in succeeding sessions. The important thing is to get started at once in this long-overdue effort to reduce poverty, and the at-least-as-vital effort to provide better education for our children.

Gentlemen, thank you for giving me this opportunity to present the position of the American Parents Committee, Inc.

Thank you very much.

Mr. PERKINS. Mr. Hecht, you have again distinguished yourself and the causes of education. As you know, from my previous remarks and sponsorship, I, too, share your concern about the lack of action at the elementary and secondary level in our school systems. I would like to see such legislation enacted tomorrow. We are never going to be able to do this job of eliminating poverty until Congress takes action to get money into these areas that are critical from the standpoint of facilities and teachers at the elementary and secondary level.

I recognize Mr. Landrum at this time.

Mr. LANDRUM. I have no questions.

Mr. PERKINS. Mr. Goodell.

Mr. GOODELL. It is nice to have you with us. I appreciate your testimony. I am particularly interested and impressed with your reference, after our last witness and colloquy, to population control.

I tend to agree with you that this is one aspect of the war on poverty that has been considered, is being considered, and may well be a portion of a well-coordinated attack on poverty, at least providing the education and information that is necessary. I appreciate your urging that approach in your testimony.

As you know, Mr. Hecht, Mr. Frelinghuysen, and I have introduced identical bills to authorize \$5 million grants for States surveys of their educational needs. I believe you are one of the outstanding proponents of this legislation. I wonder if you would like to talk a little bit about this in connection with your other comments on Federal aid to education.

Mr. HECHT. Thank you, Mr. Goodell. I hope very much the small bill of \$5 million—that is pretty small in terms of what the Government spends—but I think the \$5 million by the Federal Government could not be spent in any better way than to aid the States to put on paper their most pressing educational needs and develop a plan which would be put on paper on meeting the most pressing educational deficiencies in their States and outlining a long-range plan of their needs.