

since 1960. We approve the economic opportunity program because it embodies for the first time on the Federal level a truly strategic attack on the total complex of problems which plague our people who seek the full development of their individual and community life.

In building the Kentucky development program to its present level of action, we have learned that we must recognize that the problems of overcoming poverty, economic decline, and underdevelopment must be dealt with through the comprehensive use of all our programs and resources in government. They must be well coordinated and must depend, finally, upon the understanding, participation, and leadership of people in local areas throughout the State. We have learned that, only in such a comprehensive program, can we plan intelligently to combine programs for common strength in meeting carefully selected priority objectives. And only in a total framework for action can we justify the special actions in each separate program to meet unique problems effectively.

We have found that it is not adequate to meet a problem of a lack of industrial jobs by simply enticing industry to create the jobs for us. Our problem lies deeper. Some of our communities must prepare to sustain, not only industrial jobs, but those more numerous jobs to be gained through increased sales, service, and recreation activities as well. We must recognize the problems of individuals who have not adequately developed themselves to take advantage of job opportunities where they exist. We have learned that these problems exist in combination; that the complex arrangement of these problems differs in differing areas in our State; and that the use of programs must be carefully geared to the different and particular set of circumstances in each area.

If I make the problem seem difficult, I do so with the intention of being practical and realistic but, also, to assure you that we, in Kentucky, have come a long way in being able to deal with these complex problems and that we recognize much of the knowledge we have gained showing up in the concept of the economic opportunity program.

While we appreciate the separate provisions of the Economic Opportunity Act, and each will be especially useful, we are most impressed by the fact that the economic opportunity program provides for the flexible use of its own special provisions, along with many other programs, in a total framework of action which can be specifically suited to meet each local problem situation.

No feature of this act impresses us more strikingly than the capacity of the Office of Economic Opportunity to serve in marshaling the great complex of Federal programs in response to a community action plan conceived and designed at the local level to deal with the precise nature of realistic local problems. This is not a new concept to us in Kentucky, for it is one that we have implemented at the State level. We will be able to move quickly and effectively with this new program because we are already operating in this fashion to achieve our intensive and total development program in Kentucky.

Development has been the keynote of both State government policy and community life in our Commonwealth. All of our State programs—education, health, highway building, water resource development, as well as industry, agriculture, and tourist development—have