

legislation itself. We are concerned about the guidelines, the rules, and the regulations that have been drawn up to implement that legislation. We do not ask that all of the comments be limited to these three areas. If there are other parts of the legislative program in which constructive recommendations could be made, and should be made, we hope that the witnesses will feel free to do that.

Congressman Erlenborn and I are also very much concerned about the reaction of the educators in this part of the country to the establishment of the regional offices, the decentralization of program administration by the Office of Education.

We will turn to our first witness this morning, Dr. Jack Martin, regional assistant commissioner for the Office of Education, and also charged with the responsibility of implementing title I of the Elementary and Secondary School Act.

Dr. Martin, will you proceed in any way that you wish in presenting your views?

STATEMENT OF DR. C. J. MARTIN, REGIONAL ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Dr. MARTIN. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

For reasons already explained to you, I am going to have a colleague read my statement, and following that we will have a statement from Dr. A. W. Boldt, who is the regional representative for Higher Education, who will speak primarily to student financial-aid problems, and then following that, Dr. Louis Armstrong, who is the senior program officer of title I, Public Law 89-10.

My colleague, Dr. Childers, will read this prepared statement.

Dr. CHILDERS (Dr. B. E. Childers, regional representative, Adult and Vocational Education) (reading):

My name is C. J. Martin, regional assistant commissioner, U.S. Office of Education, region IV, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

First, I want to welcome you and members of the committee to Atlanta, and tell you that I feel it is a step forward to hold these public hearings in the regional offices where the committee can call in people who do not have so far to travel to testify. In this way the committee should be able to reach the people who know best how the Office of Education operates at the local and State level.

Region IV consists of six States, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee. At the present time some of our program officers operate in both regions III and IV. Region III is headquartered at Charlottesville, Va., and covers States from Maryland through North Carolina and extends as far west as Kentucky.

In region IV, there are 255 colleges and universities, all of which have at one time or another participated in student financial aid programs. For various reasons some have dropped out of the programs, although we still maintain administrative responsibility to see that these institutions which have dropped out make collections for loans previously made. There are 226 institutions which are now actively participating.

There are 692 school systems in this region, many of which are county systems, and the others are city or independent school systems. There is no record of how many local schools participate in Federal programs, but it is my guess that 97 to 98 percent participate in some kind of Federal program.

Office of Education programs which have program officers in the Atlanta regional office—and these are broken down according to the operating bureaus of the main office—are:

Higher education, which includes National Defense Student loans, guaranteed loans, college work-study, educational opportunity grants, and higher education facilities; grants and loans.