

(The documents Congressman Hawkins submitted follow:)

LOS ANGELES CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION,
Los Angeles, Calif., August 24, 1966.

HON. AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS,
Congressman, Congress of the United States,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR GUS: In compliance with your request of August 22, 1966, the following statements have been prepared in the hope that they will be helpful to the subcommittee of the House Education and Labor Committee. As specifically requested in your letter, these statements relate to background, policy, and implementation.

BACKGROUND STATEMENT

The Los Angeles City School Districts have consistently and continuously made every effort to obtain and purchase textbooks that adequately reflect the lives and contributions of minority ethnic groups. This concern and these efforts have been reflected in the development of curriculum publications and in the purchase of audio-visual materials, library books, and textbooks. As you know, elementary school textbooks are purchased by the State of California and are distributed to the various school districts. However, the Los Angeles City Unified School District purchases additional textbooks for elementary schools in instances where there is need for supplementation. Secondary school basic textbooks are purchased by individual junior and senior high schools out of their budgeted allotments from a list of approved texts provided by the Division of Instructional Services. The funds allotted to the secondary schools for the purchase of books varies from year to year, dependent upon the budget allocation prescribed by the Los Angeles Board of Education.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. The general policy followed in the selection and purchase of educational materials perhaps is best stated in our publication, *Point of View*. (See Exhibit A. The item that reflects policy implementation has been checked for your ready reference.)

2. A specific one-page statement of criteria and policy has been prepared as an aid to teacher committees in their evaluation and selection of textbooks. This statement is entitled *Criteria for Screening Content of New Instructional Materials With Regard to Their Treatment of Cultural Minorities*. (See Exhibit B.)

IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT

1. A selected list of books which relate to American ethnic groups has been prepared for use by secondary school librarians. This list was prepared to aid librarians and to encourage them to purchase library books which adequately and realistically depict the various ethnic groups. This list is entitled *A Selected List of Books on American Ethnic Groups for Secondary School Libraries*. (See Exhibit C.)

2. A selected list of books which relate to American ethnic groups has been prepared for use by elementary school librarians and school principals. This list also was prepared to aid librarians and principals and to encourage them to purchase library books which adequately and realistically depict the various ethnic groups. Specifically, you will note that this bibliography is organized under the following headings:

The History, Contributions and Values of American Minority Ethnic Groups.

People of Achievement.

Ethnic Enrichment of America's Culture.

Daily Observations.

Fiction.

This list is entitled *Recommended Books on American Cultural Minority Groups, September, 1965*. (See Exhibit D.)

3. In addition to the bibliographies that have been prepared and utilized, it also should be noted that in November, 1963, the Los Angeles City School Districts felt that it was imperative that the need to purchase books depicting minority groups be recognized and emphasized. Accordingly, a special form was submitted