

INTRODUCTION

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, Public Law 89-10, affirms the policy to strengthen and improve educational quality and educational opportunities in the Nation's elementary and secondary schools. Title II of the Act recognizes that, at all levels of education, teaching programs have become increasingly dependent upon effective school library materials and services, high quality up-to-date textbooks, and a variety of other instructional resources. Basic courses in nearly all areas of instruction depend upon good school libraries and instructional materials. Yet in 1961, almost 70 percent of the public elementary schools and 56 percent of the private elementary schools were without school libraries.

Title II of the Act provides that school library resources, textbooks, and other printed and published instructional materials should be made readily available on an equitable basis for the use of the children and teachers in all schools, public and private, which provide elementary and secondary education as determined under State law, but not beyond grade 12; that school library resources, textbooks, and other printed and published instructional materials should be of high quality; and that they should be suited to the needs of the children and teachers in elementary and secondary schools. Since Title II of the Act is designed to benefit children and not schools, its benefits extend to children attending profit-making as well as nonprofit schools. Federal funds made available under this title for any fiscal year must be used to supplement and, to the extent practical, increase the level of State, local, and private school funds for instructional materials, and in no case may they be used to supplant such funds.

Title II authorizes the U.S. Commissioner of Education to make grants to States for a five-year period beginning July 1965. The authorization for the first year is \$100 million. Authorizations for the succeeding four years will be decided upon by the Congress in future sessions. This is a 100 percent Federal grant program; no State or local matching funds are required.

Funds are allotted to the States on the basis of the total number of children enrolled in public and private elementary and secondary schools of the State as related to the total number of children enrolled in such schools in all of the States. The number of children enrolled is determined by the Commissioner on the basis of the most recent satisfactory data available to him. Up to two percent of the appropriation is reserved for Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Funds not required by a State for any year may be reallocated to other States.