

## 44 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AMENDMENTS

The new Bureau consists of three divisions to supervise the existing programs of training support for teachers and other professional personnel in the area of education of the handicapped, grants for research in this area, and the operation of the Captioned Films for the Deaf program. (Appendix G). The new program of assistance to the States authorized under Title VI will be an important responsibility of the Bureau.

### *Amendments*

Since Title VI has not been funded, we are requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$2,500,000 to enable the Office to make grants to the States to be used in developing plans for the administration of Title VI programs and for necessary staff to administer the program.

Even with the funding of Title VI, as approved last November, we are aware of needs that will not be met by existing legislation. For this reason we are proposing two amendments to Title VI, an expansion of the Captioned Films program and an additional authority under P.L. 88-164. These amendments and additions will allow us to accomplish the goals I set forth earlier.

The first proposed amendment to Title VI is:

#### Regional Resource Centers for Improvement of the Education of Handicapped Children

Basic to formulating an education program for a handicapped child is the identification and educational evaluation of the handicapping condition. Regional Resource Centers would serve as focal points at which such diagnosis could be provided and decisions made as how best to allocate available resources in a particular area for particular handicapped children. The centers would 1) provide testing and evaluation services to determine the special educational needs of a handicapped child, 2) develop education programs to meet these special needs, and 3) assist schools and other agencies in a particular region to provide educational programs for the handicapped child. Special emphasis would be given to the use of instructional media, evaluation of available materials and the development of new media, techniques and procedures necessary for the instruction of handicapped children.

These centers would not be confined to providing diagnostic services; this is only one step in program planning. I see the centers as developing individualized educational programs for handicapped children and following through with seeing that such programs are provided for the handicapped children referred to the centers.

The second proposed amendment to Title VI is:

#### Recruitment of Personnel and Dissemination of Information on Education of the Handicapped

Although the training programs authorized under P.L. 85-926, as amended, make it possible for colleges and universities throughout the Nation to develop, expand and improve their teacher-training programs in the various areas of education of handicapped children, there nevertheless remains a critical shortage of qualified personnel. There are, in fact, only about 300 institutions of higher education capable of providing training, many in only one area. Less than one half of the estimated 5 million handicapped children are receiving special educational services because of this shortage; many existing positions in special education remain vacant because of the lack of qualified personnel; and a large number of special teaching positions are being filled by persons who are only partially trained in special education.

The personnel shortages will not be overcome until we are able to attract large numbers of persons into the field of special education. And this can only be accomplished through a concentrated, nationwide recruitment effort for all levels and types of personnel, utilizing all types of recruitment media. Included in a large scale recruitment program would be the dissemination of information about programs for the education of handicapped children and referral services to parents, teachers and other persons interested in the handicapped. This amendment would authorize grants to or contracts with public or private agencies to encourage intensive recruitment programs and information-dissemination programs. These would be directed toward encouraging students, professional and supportive personnel to work in the field of education of handicapped children.

We also are proposing an amendment to the legislation authorizing the Captioned Films program:

#### Expansion of Instructional Media Programs to Include all Handicapped Children