

3. INNOVATION IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Education is the bridge between man and work. Therefore, work experience must become an integral part of our education program at an early age to our schoolchildren. Title II amendments to the Vocational Education Act as proposed in H.R. 6230 would afford the States an opportunity to provide model programs at the junior high level to acquaint students with the world of work. Also, it would provide a work experience program for high school youth that would give many young people an opportunity to combine theory and practice.

With passage of these amendments, the program would definitely have a favorable impact on both vocational and nonvocational programs. The formula for distributing the \$30 million to the States appears to be a sound and workable method. It is estimated that Kentucky would receive about \$600,000 if the amendments should pass.

4. EXPANDED EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Kentucky has been beset by many of the obstacles that retard the development of quality educational programs for handicapped children. In addition to inadequate financing of special education programs, Kentucky has experienced a critical shortage of trained personnel—teachers, supervisors, and other supportive personnel. The beginning of an “adequate” program dates from 1956 with foundation program units included in the State’s minimum foundation program.

As stated earlier in my testimony, title VI, Public Law 89-750, will help to fill in some of the gaps in Kentucky’s expanding program.

It is in the area of the multiple handicapped that the proposed regional resource centers can serve our needs to greatest advantage. First, the limited number of special needs cannot be served through the normal program; and second, the cost would be prohibitive.

The proposals for recruitment of personnel, dissemination of information, and expansion of instructional media programs appear to be equally sound.

The initial authorization of \$7.5 million should be extended for a minimum of 4 years. The authorizations for the supplemental programs appear to be unduly limited for the breadth of programs described.

5. MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS TO THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT AND THE FEDERALLY IMPACTED AREAS PROGRAM

1. Authorization and distribution of title V funds: It is strongly recommended that title V authorizations be made for fiscal year 1969 and extended through fiscal year 1971; and that the authorized amount of \$50 million be appropriated for fiscal year 1968.

2. Part D—Amendments to title V: It is recommended that the allotment formula for title V be amended to provide (1) 40 percent to States allotted in equal amounts; and (2) 60 percent to be distributed on the basis of school age population.

3. Public Law 875 should be amended to provide that dependent schools would continue to be operated by the U.S. Office of Education, provided that the federally connected school has an average daily attendance of 2,000 or more.