

here today has been contemplating such a joint effort. I spent Monday of this week with the director of the council and representatives of the Southwest Regional Laboratory working on the design of the proposed program. I would hope that such an effort could receive support from this source and would be eligible under Section 524(b) of the proposed act. We are working locally to develop a long-term master plan for the program of our high schools. In particular, we wish to develop a comprehensive program of career development and occupational education. This project is taxing our resources. A small amount of planning funds could vastly improve and speed up this effort.

Second, delays in appropriations have had a crippling effect on the operation of the authorized programs. I am aware that the President has called this to your attention in his recent message and urged "that Congress enact educational appropriations early enough to allow the nation's schools and colleges to plan effectively." I would add emphasis to this by telling you that as of this moment I do not know the amount of money the San Diego City Schools will receive for this year for the program for deprived children being operated under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Under California law, the district budget had to be enacted not later than the first week in August. No appropriation had been made at that time for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. On advice of the State Department of Education, we included a budget estimate for the purpose equal to 85% of the amount we had received for the seven months of operation during fiscal '66. *I do not yet have firm information of the amount we will receive.* Information I did receive last week led me to believe that the 85% estimate was optimistic and that our actual grant would be below that level. I am distressed to tell you that I issued instructions last week to cut back the project, freeze all vacancies, and cancel all unspent appropriations for materials. This will be destructive to the morale of the staff and parents in the neighborhoods being served. The quality of the program will suffer. However, I had no alternative. The district does not have funds to replace the deficit that has apparently occurred in Federal funding. To plan and operate the authorized programs adequately and efficiently, the local school districts need firm information on financing prior to final budget enactment which, in general, occurs in June or July. Funds must be disbursed early to permit districts to maintain a cash operation. The district I represent had to borrow \$8 million—10% of its anticipated revenue, early in the fiscal year to meet current operations. The normal district does not have adequate cash reserves to maintain these massive new programs when payments are delayed.

This apparent reduction in funds for Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act leads me to believe that a supplementary appropriation is needed to support programs planned and authorized under the act. If such is considered, it should also be recognized that the adult basic education program is funded at a reduced level this year and that funds are not available to pay entitlements created by the amendments of P.L. 874. I do not have the data necessary to calculate the size of the supplement currently needed. I do know that it is very destructive to local programs and to public confidence in the Federal support to cut back programs after a promising start has been made. Neither can I evaluate the budget priorities with which the Congress and Administration are faced. I would hope, however, that you would find it possible to request the proper agency to develop an estimate of the supplement needed and would give committee support to a supplementary appropriation bill for this purpose.

A third problem is very important to California districts. The basis for deriving entitlements for Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act is the 1960 census. The great westward migration of recent years has resulted in a 20% increase in California population since 1960—and that migration has included a full quota of deprived and needy families. Current entitlements for California districts are significantly below need. We would urge that steps be taken to derive these entitlements from current data. Surely the techniques of survey and estimation are available to develop a reasonable current basis for calculating these entitlements.

A fourth problem results from the assignment of responsibility for conduct of educational programs to agencies not normally responsible for education. Specifically, our local kindergarten program would be vastly improved if the full responsibility for its conduct were to be assigned to the school district. If this is to be accomplished, the responsibility at the Federal level needs to be placed with the U.S. Office of Education so that funds and directives will flow normally through the educational offices of the states to the school districts.