

(The document referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF CARROLL F. JOHNSON, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS,
WHITE PLAINS, N.Y.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee, I am Carroll F. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools in the City of White Plains, New York, a community of some 50,000 population and the County Seat of Westchester County.

It is indeed an honor to appear again, as I did last year, before this distinguished Committee. And it is a privilege to testify to the efficacy of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which has done so much to help pupils in White Plains and throughout the nation.

Thanks to funds made available by the Congress, under the Elementary and Secondary Education Acts of 1965 and 1966, under the Economic Opportunity Act and other federal legislation, we have been able in White Plains to give a "Head Start" to approximately 180 pre-kindergarten children in Head Start centers last summer and the summer before that. We have undertaken a most effective remedial and enrichment reading program for pupils in the primary, intermediate and secondary grades in our Summer Schools of 1965 and 1966. Using USESA Title I funds, we established last April a Remedial Reading Clinic which gives intensive attention to some 90 public, private and parochial school pupils with critical reading difficulties, and which provides remedial reading specialists to work with other, less critical reading problems among children in the elementary, and secondary school buildings of our city.

With Title I ESEA funds, we also were able to assemble a faculty team last summer to review kindergarten through 12th grade curricula in the areas of English, science, social studies and mathematics. This team wrote new kindergarten through 12th grade curriculum guides for the use of our teachers and prepared special study guides and teacher material for culturally disadvantaged pupils.

Under the Vocational Educational Act of 1963, we were able to arrange part-time employment for 44 students who are taking vocational training at the high school. This combination of work and study has enabled most of these pupils to remain in high school and complete their vocational courses. It had the additional benefit of making that vocational training more meaningful and more useful to the students involved.

We have been able to purchase library books and badly needed instructional equipment with federal funds under Titles I and II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. And we are even now installing at White Plains High School a microfilm center which will serve the public, private and parochial schools of our city. This microfilm facility will make available to our students the back issues of 28 major periodicals, dating back to the mid-19th century in some cases. Unique in Westchester County, the microfilm center will be an invaluable adjunct to our school library and classroom facilities and will serve, as well, adults who wish to do serious periodicals research.

Federal aid from all sources for our elementary and secondary programs, including the National School Lunch Act and the National Defense Education Act totals approximately \$413,000 in the White Plains School Budget for the current year, 1966-67.

We appreciate this assistance very much. We have done our best to spend these funds as economically and effectively as we spend funds raised through our own local real property tax levy.

We have been invited today to submit comments regarding the proposed Elementary and Secondary Education Amendments of 1967, specifically, amendments relating to the National Teacher Corps, to Comprehensive Educational Planning, to Innovation in Vocational Education, to Expanded Educational Opportunities for Handicapped Children and to Miscellaneous amendments including the Federally Impacted Areas Program.

The proposed amendments take account of many pressing needs of our society and our schools. The amendments are worthwhile and farsighted, and I believe that they should all be enacted into law.

In certain particulars, however, I believe it would be possible to strengthen the proposed legislation so that federal funds allocated under these amendments would go farther and do a more effective job.