

If no tax revenues of a State or of any political subdivision of the State may be expended for the free public education of children who reside on any Federal property within the State, or if no tax revenues of a State are allocated for the free public education of such children, then the property on which such children reside shall not be considered Federal property for the purposes of Section 5 of this Act.

Section 204 added the following new provision to section 6 of title I, Public Law 874:

(f) If no tax revenues of a State or of any political subdivision of the State may be expended for the free public education of children who reside on any Federal property within the State, or if no tax revenues of a State are allocated for the free public education of such children, then the property on which such children reside shall not be considered Federal property for the purposes of sections 3 and 4 of this act. If a local educational agency refuses for any other reason to provide in any fiscal year free public education for children who reside on Federal property which is within the school district of that agency or which, in the determination of the Commissioner, would be within that school district if it were not Federal property, there shall be deducted from any amount to which the local educational agency is otherwise entitled for that year under section 3 or 4 an amount equal to (1) the amount (if any) by which the cost to the Commissioner of providing free public education for that year for each such child exceeds the local contribution rate of that agency for that year, multiplied by (2) the number of such children.

Boards of education and school districts affected in Kentucky are helpless within themselves in complying with these amendments. Attorneys general in Kentucky have ruled repeatedly that Kentucky law forbids the State and local school districts from spending tax dollars in the operation of schools on Federal property since the property is not considered a part of the State of Kentucky. During the past 16 years, numerous appeals have been made to the attorneys general of Kentucky for a reversal of this ruling. The present attorney general is studying the problem. The chance, however, for a favorable ruling on the matter is very slim.

Without a favorable ruling from the attorney general's office, we in Kentucky have but one alternative. The State legislature will meet a few months before the amendments go into effect. An effort must be made to get legislation passed which would allow school districts to operate schools on Federal property. This legislation, which would save only a few districts from financial ruin, would be extremely difficult to pass.

Here is the problem in getting enabling State legislation. Kentucky is a pauper State. Greater demands for additional school funds are made each succeeding meeting of the legislature. The legislature in the past 10 years has been rather generous with the schools despite limited State resources. A sales tax was passed; additional enabling legislation was passed in order to allow districts to increase funds at the local level. With all of this, Kentucky still ranks 44th in the Nation with its schools.

To ask the State legislature to appropriate \$2 million in extra school funds to provide for 10,000 children thrust on them suddenly by Federal legislation seems unfair and unjust. There are a great many arguments against such legislation and very few to support it. For example, this \$2 million cost to the State would give each teacher in the Commonwealth an \$80 raise in salary, and Kentucky ranks 44th