

Title III, ESEA, has offered to Kentucky education unusual opportunities for cooperative planning on the part of the local school districts. Innovative practices, with ultimate long-term gains to our schoolchildren will be the end result of such efforts. Continuous efforts should probably be made to update and support the concepts developed in such a worthwhile educational program. The educational "feedback" to the local and State officials will also have far reaching effect on educational progress in Kentucky.

The State board of education recommends that all title III, ESEA, proposals be initially routed through and receive final approval by the State departments of education. All Federal funds in support of programs in title III should be routed through the State departments of education.

The program of vocational education in Kentucky needs to be greatly expanded. Additional funds are needed for the construction of area vocational school facilities to house needed programs. Additional personnel must be trained to staff vocational programs. The work-study program needs to be expanded in order to care for more persons needing financial assistance to take full advantage of these types of programs.

The State board of education recommends that the maximum authorization of \$225 million in the 1963 Vocational Act be raised and that additional appropriations be made for the training of personnel needed in vocational education. Support of the expansion of work-study programs is offered.

The following recommendations are offered concerning the Adult Education Act of 1966 :

A supplemental appropriation to provide financing at the maximum level authorized for the current fiscal year.

An appropriation at the maximum level authorized for adult basic education in fiscal 1968, and such funds in fiscal years thereafter as Congress may authorize.

Establish a consistent definition of "adult basic education" to be used throughout the act and fix the minimum age of eligibility at 16 years.

As a final recommendation the Kentucky State Board of Education generally opposes the regionalization concept as has been developed by the U.S. Office of Education. It is felt that this type of an approach simply constitutes another layer of regulatory control over the educational structure of the States.

Again, please accept my most sincere appreciation for the honor of having appeared before this distinguished body.

Chairman PERKINS. Thank you very much, Mr. Pogue.

Mr. Dodson.

Mr. DODSON. The next witness, Mr. Chairman, is Mr. James Baker, superintendent of schools at Middlesboro, Ky.

Chairman PERKINS. Go ahead, Mr. Baker.

STATEMENT OF JAMES E. BAKER, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, MIDDLESBORO, KY.

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is James E. Baker, superintendent of the Middlesboro Independent Schools of Middlesboro, Ky. Middlesboro is located in Bell County