

very strong plea for changing Headstart to the U.S. Office of Education and their inclusion as an integral part of title I, ESEA.

May I remind you, sir, under the present provisions of title I, ESEA, if the present prohibitions in the law were there that approximately 30 percent of the Headstart programs in this United States and 10 percent of the students presently being served by those programs would be ineligible.

Are you aware of that?

Dr. MATTHEIS. I think they would not be unavailable. Particularly it is a matter in how they have been administered but this would not make them particularly unavailable for the future as I see it.

Mr. MEEDS. You recognize the need of operating this through the Office of Economic Opportunity to avoid some of the state-church problems. You spoke about church-state problems in your State and indicated that it had one of the strongest constitutional prohibitions against infringement of this provision, is that right?

Dr. MATTHEIS. Yes, sir.

Mr. MEEDS. Do you think that if the Federal Government were to make funds available to you for just the category of Headstart that you would, through your department of education, be able to contract with a parochial school to run a Headstart program in that school?

Dr. MATTHEIS. I don't know that this would be possible, sir.

Mr. MEEDS. I don't think it could.

Dr. MATTHEIS. The reason I am placing this in here is because I could foresee the Headstart and followthrough programs being operated the way our kindergarten programs are operated now where we serve all of the children of all of the people.

Mr. MEEDS. Do you have State-supported kindergarten programs that support the parochial study?

Dr. MATTHEIS. The non-public-school students attend the public kindergarten during that year and then they transfer to the nonpublic or parochial school for the first year.

Mr. MEEDS. Do you operate any of those in private institutions?

Dr. MATTHEIS. No, sir.

Mr. MEEDS. Do you feel you could under provisions of your law?

Dr. MATTHEIS. No, sir. I would say they would be entirely public operated.

Mr. MEEDS. Do you have any Headstart programs in your State which are being operated in parochial or private institutions?

Dr. MATTHEIS. Yes, sir.

Mr. MEEDS. Then under your law those Headstart programs would not be available to the students that are taking them?

Dr. MATTHEIS. Not in the form they are but I would contend they could be very easily transferred to the educational institutions in the various communities and operated through them.

Mr. MEEDS. So you feel you are not completely utilizing your facilities in Minnesota; is that right?

Dr. MATTHEIS. I would not go so far as to say that. I think facilities would be made available for those programs as they are for the kindergarten programs and the expansion of those, the construction of facilities, whatever, however the needs demand.

Mr. MEEDS. Would they require any additional building?