

the other witnesses who accompany you here today. Mr. Megel, do you want to proceed with your statement?

**STATEMENT OF CARL J. MEGEL, WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE,
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS**

Mr. MEGEL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are delighted to be here and to have the opportunity to testify in supplementation of the excellent statement already made by the chairman of the legislative committee of the AFL-CIO.

I have with me Mr. Herrick S. Roth, vice president of the American Federation of Teachers and the president of the Colorado Labor Council. Mr. Chairman, my name for the record is Carl J. Megel. I am the Washington representative of the American Federation of Teachers, a national, professional teacher's union of more than 130,000 classroom teachers, affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

Our organization embraces 660 teacher locals, including locals in Hawaii, Alaska, the Canal Zone, the Department of Defense Overseas Dependents Schools, and in the Department of Interior Indian Schools.

Representing the American Federation of Teachers, I am privileged to appear before this committee in support of H.R. 6230, a bill to strengthen and improve programs of assistance for elementary and secondary education by extending authority for allocation of funds in various areas.

Principally, these include:

1. Extending and amending the National Teacher Corps;
2. Providing assistance for comprehensive educational planning;
3. Improving programs of education for the handicapped; and
4. Improving programs of vocational education.

By the end of this semester the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 will have been in existence for 2 full years. Because of misunderstandings, local prejudicial resistance, and unfamiliarity with procedural requirement, the implementation of the original act lacked immediate full-scale adoption. Today, the reverse is true. According to reports which we have received from our locals, enthusiastic, nationwide support is everywhere in evidence for extension, improvement, and increased revenue allocations. These reports confirm President Johnson's statement, when he said, "I believe that future historians, when they point to the extraordinary changes which have marked the 1960's will identify a major movement forward in American education."

Much credit, Mr. Chairman, belongs to the members of the Education and Labor Committee, but with special commendation to you personally for the leadership which you have exercised and for the years of effort which you have given to advancing our Nation's educational opportunities.

Representing the American Federation of Teachers in support of the passage of H.R. 6230, I do so with the approval of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Teachers and with a general mandate from the national convention of our organization. Unfortunately, our enthusiasm for this legislation is diminished because of its limitations, even though we support the general intent.