

Mrs. RYAN. National PTA.

Chairman PERKINS. You don't have to catch a plane?

Mrs. RYAN. I just lost it.

Chairman PERKINS. I am sorry about that.

Who else, Dr. Ackerman, wants to make a statement in your groups?

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Calkins has a short statement that he wishes to make when I am through.

Chairman PERKINS. From Cleveland?

Mr. CALKINS. That is correct.

Chairman PERKINS. I am anxious to hear from you.

Go ahead and summarize your statement.

Mr. ACKERMAN. I would merely summarize the last point without reading the total. There we were talking about the families that are residing in federally supported public housing projects in the urban centers particularly.

We recommend that the eligibility requirements of this federally impacted areas program (Public Law 815 and Public Law 874) be expanded to include the children of families residing within federally sponsored public housing projects.

We thank you.

(The full statement follows:)

STATEMENT BY DR. JOSEPH ACKERMAN, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee: I am Dr. Joseph Ackerman, President of the National School Boards Association and a member of the Elmhurst, Illinois Board of Education. I am accompanied by our Association's Executive Director, Dr. Harold V. Webb, and our Director of Federal and Congressional Relations, Mr. Paul N. Carlin.

The National School Boards Association is a non-profit federation of the state school board associations of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands. Our Association, through its member state school board associations represents more than 86,000 elected and appointed local school board members. These citizen leaders serve voluntarily on the governing boards of their local school districts without compensation. In many communities, this amounts to a part-time assignment with virtually full-time responsibility.

The National School Boards Association is the only national organization representing local school boards and its primary objective is the strengthening of public education through active citizen participation in the policy making process of educating our children.

I appreciate this opportunity Mr. Chairman, to appear before your Committee, on behalf of the National School Boards Association to discuss the Elementary and Secondary Education Amendments of 1967. For the convenience of your Committee, my remarks will be directed toward those major policy areas which are embraced by the two identical bills (H.R. 6230 by Congressman Perkins and H.R. 6236 by Congressman Brademas) that are officially before your Committee for the purpose of these hearings.

The annals of history will record the April 11, 1965 enactment of Public Law 89-10, the Elementary and Secondary Education Amendments of 1965, as one of the most significant educational landmarks of our generation.

Webster defines landmark as "an event or development that marks a turning point." For local school boards, this "turning point" has resulted in the availability of a substantially higher level of Federal incentive funds and an activated public interest in both the total needs of public education and the special requirements of economically disadvantaged children.

A direct result of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 has been a significant shift in the pattern of financing our Nation's public schools. During the current fiscal year, for example, the \$28.3 billion in expenditures by our Nation's 21,684 operating public elementary and secondary school districts