

legislation, it is unethical and not in keeping with sound educational principles for the Office of Economic Opportunity to write the guidelines by which boards of education are to operate Headstart programs without permitting the school people to be represented or their beliefs considered in the formulation of the rules by which they operate.

Procedures should be evaluated objectively by boards of education and they should have the right to make the necessary changes at the local level.

The children of Appalachia need Headstart training and boards of education, in general, will accept the responsibility for providing the services; but they cannot afford to turn buildings and equipment over to personnel elected by someone else and be responsible for performing the services in the Headstart program.

I, as a representative of the Martin County Board of Education, wholeheartedly recommend that the Headstart funds be channeled through the U.S. Office of Education to the various State departments of education.

I further recommend that the State departments of education distribute those funds to those boards of education which operate Headstart programs. I am certain that school people will be happy to cooperate with community action and all other community organizations in operating Headstart programs.

I thank the members of the committee for permission to appear and express my views.

Chairman PERKINS. Let me congratulate you, Mr. Goble. I have known of your work as supervisor in the Martin County school system for some while and some time. You have made an outstanding contribution to the school system and I personally want to congratulate you on your evaluation of the results obtained from the present programs in your county under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act where you evaluate the work of title I by stating that the dropout rate has been reduced and that there has been an overall increase in the academic level of the students, a greater and better percentage of attendance, and there has been much more interest from the standpoint of the price as the result of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

You are getting increased participation and involvement from the standpoint of price; and being able to put on so many special programs such as remedial reading and library sciences and other enrichment programs.

The evaluation of this piece of legislation as you have pointed out to us from Martin County, Ky., makes me feel good. As we all know Martin County is one of our low-income counties throughout the Nation. It just goes to prove that the results obtained from the passage of the legislation are commencing to pay off.

I want to thank you for that report this morning.

Mr. GOBLE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. SCHEUER. I was very much interested in your testimony. I notice that on page 3 you say that only 25 percent of the children are eligible to participate. Are you receiving the benefits of Headstart?

Mr. GOBLE. We have approximately 450 students who are eligible from age standpoint and income standpoint.