

1602 ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1967

THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING CO.,
June 22, 1967.

Hon. CARL D. PERKINS,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PERKINS: As you know, a large number of businessmen are serving on the local councils of the Community Action Programs throughout the country.

The members of the Business Leadership Advisory Council to the Office of Economic Opportunity have felt for some time that these businessmen participants in the Community Action Programs should be called together to exchange ideas, reflect constructive criticism and present their views to the staff of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

This was done last week and I had the pleasure of chairing a meeting of more than 50 such businessmen in an all-day session in Washington. I enclose the list of those who attended.

At the close of the session several of those present suggested that the group should reflect its views on the pending legislation in the Congress affecting the Office of Economic Opportunity. As a result of this discussion in which many people participated, the enclosed resolution was presented and unanimously adopted.

I thought you would be vitally interested in the views of businessmen who are closest to the Community Action Program attack on poverty.

Cordially yours,

RALPH M. BESSE.

A RESOLUTION TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE COMMUNITY ACTION SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE BUSINESS LEADERSHIP ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIRED BY RALPH M. BESSE, CHAIRMAN, CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING CO.

Whereas those in attendance at this meeting are representatives of a variety of business interests throughout the Nation;

And whereas we are actively engaged in the War on Poverty through service on Community Action boards and through private efforts to alleviate poverty in our own communities;

And whereas we are vitally interested in the continued success of the Community Action Program;

We therefore strongly recommend:

(1) that the Office of Economic Opportunity, whose work is really just beginning, remain intact and that it be the central organization to lead the efforts in the War on Poverty.

(2) that the funds recommended in the President's message to Congress for the Office of Economic Opportunity effort for the coming year be passed by Congress.

(3) that this include the maximum amount of versatile funds for Community Action.

ATTENDEES AT JUNE 14 BLAC/CAP MEETING

Francis Quillan, Senior Vice President, Prudential Insurance Company of Newark, New Jersey 07100.

Robert E. Katz, Director of Urban Program, Westinghouse Defense and Space Center, Towson, Maryland 20691

Frederick Lee, Vice President, Olin-Mathieson Chemical Corporation, Washington, D.C. 20000.

Frank Plummer, President, First National Bank, Montgomery, Alabama 36100.
Floyd Delaney, Chattanooga-Hamilton County CAP, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37400.

Will Hellerman, Vice President, Nationwide Insurance Company, Columbus, Ohio 43200.

William B. Collier, Jr., President, Collier-Lewis Realty Company, Chicago, Illinois 60600.