

for involvement to all sectors of the community including the poor.

If the community action program is to maintain its catalytic effect; if it is to continue to create greater responsiveness to the needs of the poor in the local community, then it is essential that the present level of Federal contribution to local programs be maintained.

We urge this committee to restore the 90-percent Federal contribution to the Economic Opportunity Amendments of 1967.

Innovation in programing, new and better ways of helping the poor break the poverty cycle are essential if the war on poverty is to achieve its purpose. To meet this need adequate funds are required for demonstration and research purposes.

We are happy to support the administration's recommendation to increase the amount of funds available for demonstration and research purposes under the community action programs from 5 to 10 percent. We urge favorable action on this request by this committee.

One proposal for amending the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 is not included in the bill under consideration. This is a proposal that seeks to provide \$60 million for day care services. The proposal would give preference to children from families on welfare in which a parent chooses to undertake education, training, or employment.

It further mandates maximum use of welfare recipients as sub-professional personnel in the staffing of these day care facilities.

This measure may well provide another way to reduce dependency on public welfare and we support this approach to the problem.

While substantial gains against poverty have been recorded, we know now that the eradication of poverty will not be achieved overnight.

I believe we all recognize now that we have to plan for a long war. In light of this, we strongly urge that the authorization for the anti-poverty program be made for more than 1 year and certainly no less than 2 years. This will permit OEO to plan more realistically both operationally and in program terms. We don't need an annual war of nerves in the war on poverty.

To win the war on poverty, much more needs to be done. If more is to be done, more money is essential. The war on poverty should be expanded. The proven programs should be extended. New programs should be developed to meet unmet needs. The administration's request for fiscal 1968 for \$2.06 billion represents a small step forward. But it is not enough.

In the face of 32 million persons living below the poverty level, this amount is woefully inadequate. More money is needed to expand such proven programs as Job Corps and Neighborhood Youth Corps, more money is needed for the community action program, for VISTA, for migrant programs. The great need is to press the war on poverty with greater urgency on all fronts and with increased funds if we are to move the poor from their intolerable condition.

In our judgment, we can fulfill our commitments in Vietnam and elsewhere overseas and, at the same time, support the war on poverty more adequately than we are doing now. The resources proposed for allocation to the war on poverty are altogether inadequate in terms of both the need and our capabilities.

The war on poverty has stirred the hopes and aspirations of the poor all over America. The bright promise of a better life has given hope