

3074 ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1967

num impact on the urban poverty problems. These unencumbered funds, responsive to local need, have been crucial in Cleveland's progress.

Cleveland has enjoyed vigorous and successful anti-poverty programs. On numerous occasions I have offered to appear before appropriate committees of Congress to testify concerning these successes and in support of continued, and enlarged, funding of OEO programs consistent and commensurate with the demonstrated need. I renew that offer to make such appearances, and I earnestly request that you schedule a time for me to testify before your committee.

Sincerely,

RALPH S. LOCHER, *Mayor*.

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN,
Lansing, Mich., July 31, 1967.

Hon. CHARLES E. CHAMBERLAIN,
Rayburn Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN CHAMBERLAIN: For many years, the State Bar of Michigan has been in the forefront of Bar Associations in the development of Legal Aid programs—that is, programs designed to provide legal service to those unable to pay a reasonable fee to a private practicing lawyer.

With the advent of the Legal Services Program of the Office of Economic Opportunity, this Bar Association took immediate steps to expand its program of Legal Aid, always accepting its responsibility to initiate, administer, and control such programs.

Following the strong leadership of the American Bar Association, this State Bar passed a Resolution on December 6, 1965, reaffirming its professional responsibility. (Copy attached)

We wish to point out we have implemented this Resolution by many positive actions.

1. A special committee of this Bar Association was established, first from among the members of the Board of Bar Commissioners, and later, enlarged to include a strong cross-section of Bar Leadership. (Copy attached)

2. Hundreds of our members have devoted countless hours of time to the development, supervision, administration, and educational aspects of these programs. To date, i.e., June 30, 1967, there have been 15 programs funded entirely or in part by the Legal Services Program of OEO. A list of these is attached, together with the amounts of these grants.

3. In addition, there are two programs in process which, although critically important, have not been funded due to lack of available monies. A brief description of these unfunded programs is included on a separate page after the listings of the funded programs.

4. One of our major concerns is adequate continued supervision of these programs. Accordingly, the State Bar of Michigan has just provided, at its expense, for a full-time staff attorney who will be responsible to the Board of Bar Commissioners for the continuing success of these programs.

There is a Legal Services program funded by the Economic Opportunity office in your Congressional District which is being administered by the Greater Lansing Legal Aid Society. This program was funded at a total cost of approximately \$37,580, April 1, 1967, for a four month period and will be refunded on September 1, 1967, for a full 12 months.

Poor people in the counties of Ingham, Eaton, Clinton and Shiawassee will have legal aid available to them through this program.

The Bar Associations of all four counties are involved in the program and many lawyers have worked tirelessly to construct a program which would be responsive to the needs of both Urban Lansing and the rural communities in the four counties.

We have some concern about the future of these programs. First, the \$15,000 maximum salary limit is unrealistic as applied to professional services. Doctors in independent agencies are not subject to such limits; neither should lawyers be. It is difficult, if not downright impossible, to secure and retain an experienced lawyer-administrator for our major offices—such as Detroit, with 21 lawyers—