

Mr. TOWNES. My name is Paul Townes. I am city manager of the city of Hazard; a native of the city, born and raised there, educated at the University of Kentucky.

Chairman PERKINS. Mayor Dawahare, do you feel that the way the program is operated—that is, the economic opportunity and the community action programs—as it is presently authorized and presently constituted now, rather than transferring the functions?

Mayor DAWAHARE. Yes, sir; I think the way that it is operated in our city, I think it would be better to keep it as it is.

Chairman PERKINS. Have you ever been able to zero in on the youngster that should have received benefits to the extent that your present community action programs and other youth programs serve the people under the Office of Economic Opportunity?

I mean are they more effective under the present act?

Mayor DAWAHARE. Yes, sir, I think so, but I believe if we could include in this program high school graduates, kids that are still between the ages of 16 and 21 that do want to go to college, that don't have an opportunity, I think they are left out. I don't think they should be penalized because they are high school graduates, and they are being penalized. If they are a high school graduate, they don't high qualify for the program.

Chairman PERKINS. Well, they qualify for the out-of-school program and work-study programs and the loan programs administered by the institutions where they don't have to pay any interest until after they get through college, and then commence to pay interest at the rate of 4 percent. They qualify for those programs, but they do not have—you are talking about a poor youngster that wants to go to college, a graduate of high school. He can now qualify for the out-of-school programs.

Mayor DAWAHARE. He did not qualify at Hazard.

Chairman PERKINS. I cannot understand that.

Mayor DAWAHARE. That is what I could not understand, but Mr. Stafford said that, and he was the director of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Chairman PERKINS. Maybe it was because of an income limitation or something along that line.

Mayor DAWAHARE. No, sir, it was not. These children came from families that were on public assistance.

Chairman PERKINS. Well, if it is a cause, then it may be because of an overlapping regulation. There is nothing in the law where they could take advantage of work-study and various loan programs and a scholarship program. You can take advantage of all three of those programs. That perhaps was the reason. That eliminated that category. The program was really in attendance for dropouts.

Mayor DAWAHARE. Yes, sir.

Chairman PERKINS. We have been trying to legislate to take care of all these various facets of the youngster to make it possible for the youngsters that want to go to college to go to college. That is what we have spent much of our time on in this committee.

Mayor DAWAHARE. I would like to give one other success story.

We had a young kid at home that had been in reform school, in and out, 14 or 15, that nothing would satisfy him. He got on the Neighborhood Youth Corps, we put him in the police department as a radio