

financially strict manner. Their tough line on income ceilings is perhaps a little too lenient. Their financial control over grants is better than any of the agencies in the social field.

This past year they have put increased emphasis on counselling and job development, which is essential. The administration has been flexible enough to meet local conditions. Perhaps the single most glaring error in the Quie Bill is the suggestion that part of the Neighborhood Youth Corps program should be transferred to the Office of Education. In addition to the serious program difficulties and problems such a transfer would entail, the fact is it would almost double the administrative costs. At the present time, in most cases, the in-school and out-of-school programs and the drop-out programs are all handled by the same administrative staff. The Quie Bill would call for transfer of some of this program from the Labor Department to the Office of Education where a duplicate structure would have to be created.

The cost of actually transferring an agency not only runs into the millions of dollars but can disjoint and discourage many good staff members and good working relationships. It would eliminate over half of the present sponsors and with no assurance of improved program. There is every evidence that it would reduce rural participation as many of the rural schools are still too small to carry out good programs themselves. We believe that the Neighborhood Youth Corps should be a work experience to assist the individual in continuing school, including college if desirable, and of equal importance in getting a good job when he completes high school or other schooling opportunities. We see the greater need to coordinate the Neighborhood Youth Corps with the job counseling and development programs. We strongly oppose the transfer of any part of NYC programs to the Office of Education as poor programming and a waste of public funds.

*Adult Work Programs.* Our Green Thumb program has been the pilot program for these adult work programs and we are proud that our Green Thumb program has yet to have its first bad press story since we opened our offices and hired the first man. We are proud of our bi-partisan support and support by all the Governors in the seven states in which we operate. We are proud that we have acted as a demonstration program which has been copied by hundreds of Community Action Agencies. We are especially proud of the fine work that our Green Thumb worker trainees are doing.

Before this Committee considers re-shuffling the various parts of the Office of Economic Opportunity, we can tell you from first-hand experience that it is a costly, painful, agonizing, and rough process from the agencies, sponsoring groups, and for the Congressmen and Senators. In the case of transferring the Nelson-Scheuer and Kennedy-Javits programs it was worth the effort as the Labor Department is better equipped administratively and operationally to handle these programs than is OEO. We would strongly urge that since these programs have already been transferred over to the Department of Labor that the Nelson and Scheuer programs (Mainstream) be officially transferred over to Title I for clearer and cleaner administrative lines. Coordination with the other employment programs is most essential, even more essential than coordination with other community action programs, if you want results.

We would urge that the Labor Department be encouraged to strengthen its CAMP committee for coordination of all manpower programs, and that these adult work programs should be even more closely linked with other manpower programs. The Labor Department should be free to select its sponsors and to evaluate them. We are pleased with the strict financial control than OEO and CAP had over the programs. While their application forms are a little too complex for some rural community action groups, it will give much tighter control and understanding than OEO has had.

Last year we supported a major increase in the adult work programs. We continue to urge greater emphasis upon adult work programs not only as solid ways to eliminate poverty and help people toward employment in the private sector, but also because it improves the quality of living in our communities, especially in low income areas of our communities and increases essential services.

While we would not like to see rioters receive a reward for rioting, we believe that many of the innocent victims of these senseless riots could be helped out by employing them to clean up the riot areas. Many of the poor, old people living in our central cities will be even further impoverished by being burnt out. They should be employed immediately to help rebuild these areas.

The Nelson Amendment program has been the most popular among the rural community action agencies. I have yet to find a rural community action agency director who directly or indirectly did not already have an application for a