

Another big issue concerned Headstart. Should it also be transferred to the Office of Education? Here too, the record is clear.

While some educators, testifying on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act have said that Headstart should be transferred—those who are experts on the subject of poverty say, “No.”

Headstart is more than an educational program. It affects the total life and culture of the child—his health, his parents, behavior, environment, diet and outlook.

The entire program is directly related to the community action effort. Your witnesses agreed that Headstart should remain a part of OEO.

Another question concerned the earmarking of funds. No witness nor any Member of Congress suggested that local community initiative be limited by the earmarking of funds. To the contrary, all witnesses speaking on the issue strongly urged that there be no earmarking of community action funds.

Every witness who commented on local share, urged a return to the 90-10 Federal-local matching requirement, rather than an increase in the share required by local communities. This testimony runs contrary to the proposal of the Opportunity Crusade that even greater funds be demanded from the local communities.

OEO is sometimes accused of spending too much—but the witnesses who appeared here seem to be saying exactly the opposite: OEO is not spending nearly enough.

Whitney Young said we should spend at least \$10 billion per year.

AFL-CIO said spend more money.

The Citizen's Crusade Against Poverty said spend more.

Clarence Mitchell of the NAACP said spend more.

The representatives of America's bar associations—not just the American Bar Association but the National Bar Association, the Trial Lawyers Association, the National Legal Aid and Public Defenders Association, Republicans as well as Democrats—urged the Legal Services Program spend three times as much as now.

Educators said: “Double Upward Bound.”

Mayors asked for twice as many Neighborhood Youth Corps enrollees.

The Governor of Alaska, for one, urged us to double VISTA.

And, following the recent trouble in Detroit, Governor Romney sent an urgent telegram requesting 200 additional VISTA volunteers.

I am happy to tell you that by 5 p.m. of the day the Governor sent the telegram, 35 VISTA volunteers arrived. Forty-six arrived Saturday; 50 arrived Sunday; 55 more will be there today; 2 will arrive tomorrow, and 57 more on Wednesday.

This is a poverty program in action where it is needed. And it is needed everywhere.

That's the record. You heard it. I heard it. The American public has heard it. No one can conclude from the testimony that OEO is not doing its jobs. Its performance is known and its record is clear.

On the other hand, what witness or what group has spoken on behalf of the proposed Opportunity Crusade? No one said, let's try something else. No witness has explained why the substitute bill would provide a better program.

Where were the witnesses who thought OEO should be dismantled