

3426 ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1967

staffs. They are moving into the Neighborhood Legal Services headquarters and the City Prosecutor's office in police headquarters to assist in interviewing and processing that week's staggering 4,000 arrests. (Normally, felony arrests in Detroit run around 8,000 a year.) Their goal is both to relieve massive clerical and legal problems and to facilitate release on bond of citizens so that they can return to their jobs and families. VISTA Volunteers are manning an emergency rat control project and working out of Archdiocese Headstart Centers locating children absent since the riots began. And, VISTA Volunteers are boarding donated dump trucks for clean-up campaigns.

During the crisis itself, VISTA Volunteers already in Detroit repeatedly exposed themselves to sniper fire in order to assist refugees, report disasters and help direct relief agencies to areas of greatest need. Others performed small and sometimes menial tasks that took some of the burden off overworked local staff.

The Volunteers are being supervised by 20 VISTA staff members from the VISTA office and VISTA Regional Training Centers. Their work is at all times being closely coordinated with Mr. Vance's office and with the Mayor's Committee for Human Resources Development.

One of the most important efforts now is to put the community in a position to help rebuild itself. To further this objective, VISTA is launching a campaign to recruit ghetto residents to serve as VISTA Associates. On Wednesday, the first fifteen VISTA Associates will be selected. Additional Associates will be added in the coming days. VISTA regards the recruitment of local people to carry on work begun on an emergency basis by VISTAs themselves as a high priority endeavor.

BILL GROOK,
Assistant Director VISTA.

Chairman PERKINS. While we are at this stage of placing documents into our record, I have here four letters written to me recently. The first three are in answer to my telegram requesting the views of these men concerning the amendments to the Economic Opportunity Act. They are from Don K. Price, dean of Harvard's School of Government; Stephen K. Bailey, dean of The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs of the Syracuse University; and Bernard L. Gladieux, a partner in the management consultant firm of Knight & Gladieux of New York City, respectively.

The fourth letter is from a fellow Congressman out of New York, Leonard Farbstein of the 19th District, in which he sites his views on the same subject of the amendments to the Economic Opportunity Act with specific reference to the reincorporation of section 206(b) which is of particular interest to him.

Without objection, it is so ordered that these letters be made a part of our hearing record at this point.

(The letters follow:)

HARVARD UNIVERSITY,
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT,
Cambridge, Mass., July 27, 1967.

HON. CARL D. PERKINS,
Chairman, Education and Labor Committee, U.S. House of Representatives, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PERKINS: I am writing in reply to your telegram of July 24, asking my opinion regarding the proposal to transfer the activities of the Office of Economic Opportunity to the several Executive departments with related functions.

For the typical governmental activities, the arguments against having operating programs in the Executive Office of the President, and in favor of assigning programs to the permanent departments, are of course valid.

On the other hand, I believe that programs of an emergency nature may from