

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1967 3723

As you will see, we have not thought of the New Careers approach as primarily a means of providing assistance to the low income and disadvantaged groups but as a means of meeting the need for services which the public expects. This means substantial planning to reconstruct the entire work force rather than a simple training project for a particular segment of the people. We have identified in our discussions several potential pitfalls or difficulties to be avoided or overcome.

(1) An extensive training program without substantial planning of job objective is useless and actually detrimental.

(2) The creation of any work roles suitable to the training of the less abled or less prepared individual involves a change in the role of the previously existing professional or higher level technical positions. This means re-training of the professional to make a more complete utilization of his highest level of skills and training and to avoid negative and unfavorable attitude towards the individuals who will be assuming many of the more familiar tasks previously reserved to him.

(3) The necessity for a good-faith approach to such an endeavor without the guarantee of results. There is little experience by which to gauge the probability of success and any employer will be turned aside from experimenting in this fashion if it is required that he give an assurance or guarantee of employment opportunity as a condition of support in such a venture.

Sincerely,

CLAUDE E. CALDWELL,
Director.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE,
Washington, D.C., July 18, 1967.

HON. CARL D. PERKINS,
*Chairman, Committee on Education and Labor,
House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN PERKINS: The Institute, a national conservation organization interested in the improved management and restoration of natural resources, is concerned about two proposals, H.R. 8311 and H.R. 10682, pending before the committee. Both deal in part with the Job Corps Conservation Centers now in operation on lands of the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and other natural resources agencies.

H.R. 8311 would continue the constructive Job Corps Conservation Centers program; H.R. 10682 would let it expire by default.

Members of our staff have visited a number of the Job Corps Camps and have seen the good work that it being done, both in education and rehabilitation of deserving young men whose future status as productive citizens is clouded by the home and community conditions to which they are exposed, and in the actual on-the-ground conservation projects in which they are engaged.

It is our sincere hope that the Job Corps Conservation Centers program will be continued in whatever legislation is approved. The costs of the program are modest compared to the results that are being achieved.

I would appreciate having this letter made a part of the hearing record.

Sincerely,

C. R. GUTERMUTH,
Vice President.

EMORY UNIVERSITY,
Atlanta, Ga., July 24, 1967.

HON. CARL PERKINS,
*Chairman, House Committee on Education and Labor,
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

MY DEAR MR. PERKINS: I understand that the so-called Scheuer Amendment to the Economic Opportunity Act is again under discussion.

May I express to you my strong feeling in favor of this Amendment.

I recognize that many of the proponents of the legislation are primarily interested in opening up creative career opportunities for the poor. While I sympathize heartily with this objective, my own professional concern is with the preparation of the additional manpower so badly needed to enable the public schools to do their job in the coming years and decades. It has been apparent for several years that efficient operation of the schools will require a variety of para-professional and sub-professional positions for which in general there