

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1967 3767

and increase of the Fund in order to overcome some of the unhappy conditions that are the outgrowth of former neglect in these very pertinent areas of concern.

Very respectfully yours,

Mrs. JOHN DABNEY, *President.*

SIKESTON, Mo., July 30, 1967.

Representative CARL PERKINS,
House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: As a citizen, who has served in the Economic Opportunity Program as a volunteer since February 1966, I am requesting you, as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Employment, Manpower and Poverty, to urge the Committee to evaluate with honesty and foresight the effort and progress that is being made by the War ON Poverty in its present form.

In our community, members of several leading churches and civic clubs are initiating and carrying on programs for the deprived youth in conjunction with the Community Action Program. Other volunteers are recruiting and screening girls for the Job Corps.

I am secretary to the two hundred eighty six member Woman's Society of Christian Service of one of these churches. I am an active member of the Community Action Agency and a volunteer in its Youth Program. The Job Corps is also of special interest to me. At the present time I am corresponding regularly with five Job Corps Enrollees.

The letters written by these young women and the interest shown by the volunteers proves the effectiveness of the present Economic Opportunity Program.

Yours truly,

MARGARET SCHMERBAUCH.

NEWARK, N.J.

Representative CARL PERKINS,
Chairman of Congressional Committee on the Antipoverty Bill.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PERKINS: I am writing as a member of the Newark Council of the Church Women United—also as an individual in support of the antipoverty bill which will *not* cut the amount to be appropriated to the Office of Economic Opportunity.

I feel that definitely the good that has come out of the United Community Corporation—for one—in Newark far outweighs the cost of mismanagement to the haste with which the projects were started.

Very truly yours,

ELIZABETH L. RITCES.

CITY OF MUSKEGON, MICH.,
August 4, 1967.

Hon. CARL D. PERKINS,
House of Representatives, Committee on Education and Labor, Rayburn House
Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PERKINS: It is with great pleasure and satisfaction that I undertake to write a few words in behalf of one of our most noteworthy programs. In my experience locally I have found that the Poverty Program is well worth the investment in time and money that it is costing. The local picture is such that I have much enthusiastic praise and support for OEO in general.

Let me begin by saying that the Community Action Program in Muskegon is an outstanding example of OEO monies geared in the right direction. I serve on the Board and have watched the program develop from its early beginnings. At the present time it has concentrated its efforts on implementing a number of Neighborhood Service Centers in the target areas spread all over the county. The value of these programs was demonstrated within the past week when faced with some minor disorders, the Neighborhood Center staffs worked around the clock getting the youth off the streets, counseling them and talking to them so as to counteract the near riotous peak that the community was faced with during the Detroit riot.

As a result of community action, the City of Muskegon is paying the rent for one of the Neighborhood Centers which is located in a sensitive poverty area. The Centers operate with a staff of four community aides each in which they canvass the neighborhood seeking problems that can be helped by direct action or otherwise. The poor in these areas now know that they have a resource which can help them in a multitude of ways, such as unemployment, legal aid, health needs