

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1967 3777

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED,
St. Joseph, Mo., August 10, 1967.

Representative CARL PERKINS,
Subcommittee on Employment, Manpower, and Poverty,
House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: On behalf of Church Women United of St. Joseph, Missouri I am writing in reference to bill HR311 concerning the Job Corps. As we have participated in the recruitment of girls to participate in this program and have had some contact with them as they are in training we are convinced of its value and most urgently encourage you to support this program so that it may continue.

Sincerely,

Mrs. LAWRENCE WICKHAM,
Corresponding Secretary.

NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD,
New York, N.Y., August 16, 1967.

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

DEAR CONGRESSMAN PERKINS: The National Jewish Welfare Board, the association of more than 400 Jewish Community Centers throughout the United States, joins the many religious, civic, social and other organizations who support the effort to eradicate poverty.

In April, 1964, the Board of Directors of the National Jewish Welfare Board endorsed President Johnson's Economic Opportunity Act, believing that it represented an effective approach toward the reduction of poverty within our country. We urged Congress to enact legislation which would eliminate the paradox of poverty in our affluent society. Since that date, many Jewish Community Centers have participated in local community action programs. The war on poverty program has provided these Centers with the opportunity to exercise their Judaic responsibility to those in need by sharing in this country's effort to break the cycle of poverty for millions of families. We are indeed proud that our Centers have cooperated with the Federal Government in the OEO program and have contributed leadership and organization in planning and providing services to people who need them.

On April 24, 1966, the Biennial Convention of the National Jewish Welfare Board re-endorsed its position in support of the war on poverty and stated its belief that the program of the Office of Economic Opportunity had adequately demonstrated its ability to assist those living in poverty to improve their condition.

The experience of our affiliated Centers indicates the need for the continuation and expansion of the war on poverty program. We strongly support the present structure of OEO and are opposed to any proposal which would result in splintering its existing structure.

We suggest that the OEO continue to innovate and experiment with programs and encourage local communities to adopt and conduct them. We sincerely hope that Congress will speedily authorize and appropriate the funds requested by the President.

While we realize that the war on poverty cannot be won overnight, we do believe that the OEO is the most effective instrument to eventually obtain the victory. The National Jewish Welfare Board, therefore, urges Congress to continue its support of this vital program.

Sincerely yours,

LOUIS STERN, President.