

3784 ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1967

funds at this time or changes in the concept of OEO programs would only help to destroy the advances made to eliminate poverty.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. JOHN G. LYON, *President.*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PENNSYLVANIA,
Philadelphia, Pa., June 14, 1967.

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

DEAR SIR: The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania wishes to express its support of the Economic Opportunity Amendments (H.R. 8311 and S. 1545) in the belief that this most essential program should clearly be continued and its vital activities be sustained.

Since in Pennsylvania more than half the people reached through OEO programs and nearly half the money spent are concerned with Community Action Programs, the amendments dealing with this area are of special interest to us.

We have been pleased to note that, as the bill now stands, the legislation does not earmark Title II funds for specific programs, thus leaving the local agencies free to bring their necessary knowledge and experience to bear on the particular choices which must be made.

We also note with interest the provision for membership of public officials and representation of business, labor and other community leadership on Community Action Agencies. Having observed the participation of such groups in some of the Community Action Agencies in Pennsylvania, we can attest to the effectiveness of such representation.

Having noticed in our studies the great complexity of the poverty program, we hope that the necessary objective evaluation of community action programs may be aided by the provisions setting up standards for such evaluation included in the amendments.

As we have observed the Community Action Program in various locations throughout Pennsylvania, we are much impressed by the value of this approach to the problems of poverty. As citizens in poverty areas become active in solving their own problems, both morale and specific achievements benefit.

Sincerely,

Mrs. ROBERT FARLOW, *President.*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CHARLESTON AREA, WEST VIRGINIA,
June 21, 1967.

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

DEAR SIR: The League of Women Voters of Charleston Area, West Virginia urge your support of the Economic Opportunity Amendments of 1967.

Our local community action program at the Kennedy Center has given the residents of the area a basis for hope. There are several programs in operation there for children and adults that should have some lasting results. As you know, Action for Appalachian Youth is the local agency supervising the program at the Kennedy Center, and it is also in charge of other community program. We are heartened by its efforts in the rural areas.

Charleston has accepted the Job Corps and has made note of its effectiveness. These are devoted volunteers assisting this program, and that is a true indication of the community's approval of the program.

We are opposed to the abolishment of the Office of Economic Opportunity, feeling that this action will only dilute the programs and their effectiveness; we are fully aware of the shortcomings of some of the programs, but drastic changes and reduction of funds will not improve the picture.

Very truly yours,

LUCILLE PIANFETTI,
Chairman, Human Resources Committee.