

overly sensitive to the needs of low income people, are beginning to see things a little differently and to begin to accept the concept of self-help which is so basic to community action. The Office of Economic Opportunity is a vital part of this process and will be needed to exert its influence in the areas of employment, education, legal aid, welfare, health, family planning, etc.

Many communities, such as the four county community action group of which Anderson County is a part, have gone through a painful process of learning to coordinate resources, to plan ahead, to take a new look at poverty. We, like many other communities, may be on the threshold of success. We need the Economic Opportunity Act to continue so that our rural and city poor may benefit and have a chance to develop to their fullest capabilities.

We have heard many criticisms of the administration of the Economic Opportunity Act. Yet should we have expected miracles without any mistakes in a program so dependent on individual participation at the local level? The Economic Opportunity Act, particularly community action, counted on us at the local level to work together, to solve our own problems with our own initiative and responsible actions. Many times we have failed locally to accept this responsibility. It takes time and much trial and error for professionals and volunteers to learn to work together and for politicians to accept a change in status quo which might endanger their future in politics, for the middle class to listen to low income people, for low income people to learn to operate through democratic processes.

We feel that now is the time for Congress to be patient and to encourage those who are trying to help themselves through the various programs offered through the Economic Opportunity Act.

Sincerely,

Mrs. ROY THOMA,
President.

Mrs. M. P. STULBERG,
Chairman, Human Resources.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTHFIELD,
Southfield, Mich., June 14, 1967.

MY DEAR MR. PERKINS: Our League is extremely concerned over the possible reshuffling and loss of the Office of Economic Opportunity. We have just completed a study on the county level (Oakland) and understand the very real need and usefulness of this office and attending organizations.

I strongly urge you to lend your full support to the maintenance of OEO. We must begin *now* to break this chain of poverty and ignorance. Tomorrow may be too late. In this short 2½ years CAP and the Job Corps have proven their worthiness.

Very truly yours,

SHIRLEY WAK.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LA GRANGE AND LA GRANGE PARK, ILL.,
June 10, 1967.

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

MY DEAR MR. PERKINS: The League of Women Voters has been concerned with development of human resources and has studied the legislation passed by Congress dealing with education and poverty. We support federal programs which aid disadvantaged people to gain better educations and job skills, and those which encourage local communities to consider their own problems and the best methods to solve or mitigate them.

The La Grange-La Grange Park League of Women Voters is particularly interested in the Head Start program which has operated in our local communities for two years. We would like to see more evaluation of enrollees and possible programs to follow up and sustain the impetus given by this preschool experience.

We are also much interested in the Community Action program which, we feel, is extraordinary in that it gives the people in the community the chance and the responsibility to concern themselves with community problems instead of expecting the state and federal governments to do the job. In our study we found our local group, the Lyons Township CAP, formed less than two years ago, to be a