By having an Economic Opportunity Council which would advise the President as well as the O.E.O. Director the coordination of effort will be improved especially since staff for the council is authorized. It also seems that the two additional assistant directors would be helpful in administration which has been admittedly weak in some instances.

Our experience with O.E.O. programs in Stevens Point has been quite good. Everyone agrees that "Head Start" has been a success. We also think that "Upward Bound" largely used in this area by Indian youth was beneficial to all. The Work Study program for college students has been fine too. As for the Job Corps it must be remembered that these youth were almost 100% failures socially. To us the drop out rate of 30% is not disturbing. The important fact is that 70% do stay!

At this time we also wish to state that we are not in favor of "Opportunity Crusade" as proposed by some opponents of O.E.O. because (1) it would dismantle the entire Office of Economic Opportunity just as it is getting nicely started and (2) it only authorizes $1.7 billion which is about half the appropriation of $2.06 billion asked for F.Y. 1968 and (3) it would do away with Community Action Programs which we consider valuable. In fact this seems to us an attempt to tear down programs of all kinds which we think are successful and important. We urge you to support H.R. 8311.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

MRS. JOHN B. GACH,
President of L.W.V. of Stevens Point.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE,
NORMAN LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS,
Norman, Okla., June 10, 1967.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN PERKINS: We would like to express our support of the Economic Opportunity Amendments of 1967 (H.R. 8311, S. 1545).

After studying the Community Action Program, the Norman League of Women Voters feels it would be a grave mistake to depart from the innovative approach CAP presents.

This is a time for evaluation and improvement, not elimination.

Sincerely Yours.

GRETA SNELL,
Chairman.
JANE MIDDLETON,
Co-chairman.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF AUSTIN,
Austin, Minn., June 12, 1967.

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

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PERKINS: On behalf of the League of Women Voters of Austin, Minnesota, I should like to urge you to support the Economic Opportunity Amendments of 1967 (H.R. 8311, S. 1545).

The League is opposed to abolishing the Office of Economic Opportunity. There is value in having a single federal agency responsive to the needs of the poor and responsible for the difficult job of originating, co-ordinating, and evaluating programs related to those needs. Moreover, it is important at this point to work to strengthen rather than weaken the mitigating and co-ordinating roles of the Community Action Program on the national and local levels, and it is difficult to see how this would be accomplished by transferring CAP to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. One reason the OEO was established and the CAP concept put into practice was that established agencies had not been adequately sensitive to the basic inequalities faced by the hard-core poor. In contrast, OEO has been imaginative in its development of new programs. If anything, the co-ordinating role of OEO and CAP (on the local as well as national levels) should be buttressed to better insure that poverty programs administered by other agencies (including delegated EOA programs) are actually directed to the needs of the poor.