

tion program be established. If such a plan were adopted, any graduate student who chooses to enlist in any of the services will be granted up to three years to complete his education.

I would be pleased if you would include the enclosed statement on this plan in your hearings.

Sincerely,

JACKSON E. BETTS.

[From the Congressional Record, Feb. 26, 1968]

A PLAN FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS FACING THE DRAFT

(Mr. Betts asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the Record and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. BETTS. Mr. Speaker, a devastating cutoff of the supply of new college teachers as well as young men trained in natural science, law, mathematics, health, and all fields of social science and the humanities is predicted unless the draft law now in effect is changed by June 1968.

The threat to graduate education has been vividly presented and the growing dismay across the country about who serves under present draft laws is well known. The President and Selective Service Director must consider alternatives to alleviate the dire situation expected to befall graduate students. In the debate on this subject, I believe equity falls somewhere between meeting military manpower needs with qualified men and the requirement that our society educate a large cadre of young people to improve every aspect of life in this country and its international obligations. The emphasis in the present draft system leans heavily toward the former objective. I wish to advance a plan to create a balanced draft policy in terms of both critical national needs.

A delayed induction program for graduate students and specific hardship situations would allow students to enlist for military service at the completion of undergraduate study but defer induction until up to a 3-year course of graduate study has been completed. This would establish a program whereby anyone wishing to pursue full-time graduate study can enlist with one of the services but not have to begin training until completing an advanced degree program. Let me describe this approach by including a letter written to Selective Service Director Hershey:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C., August 2, 1967.

Lt. Gen. LEWIS B. HERSHEY,
Director, Selective Service System,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR GENERAL HERSHEY: The recent congressional consideration of the Universal Military Training and Service Act has resulted in the modification and, in most instances, the elimination of graduate educational deferments except for medical and dental students. The need for graduate education in other than medical allied professions concerns me; first, because it may result in the termination of many students' graduate careers and second, because of the ramifications it may have on the nation's pool and highly educated manpower. This nation is dependent on a high level of educational capacity in the continuing competition with its adversaries and in the campaign to develop a better society. Thus, while I recognize the military obligation of every young man and the overriding importance of national security, is it not possible to couple the interest of defense with educational attainment?

The underlying reason given by the Marshall Commission and the Clark Panel for the abolishment of graduate deferments is that a disproportionate few graduate students ever serve in the Armed Forces. Many graduate students pyramid deferment on top of deferment and catapult themselves out of the draft pool as only 27% ever serve in contrast to 70% of the college and 74% of high school graduates. While these figures evidence a sharp disparity and injustice, as Representative Richard S. Schweiker noted in the House Armed Services Committee hearings, "These statistics do not make every graduate student a willful draft dodger."

It is on this premise and in response to the need for persons with extensive educational experience that I propose a delayed induction program for graduate students. Such a program is in keeping with what is alleged to be your tenet