

You may summarize.  
(The statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF H. LeROY MARLOW, DIRECTOR, PENNSYLVANIA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (PENNTAP)

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee: I am H. LeRoy Marlow, Director of PENNTAP, the Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program. I wish to thank the Committee for the privilege of testifying on H.R. 16824, the bill which would extend the authorization of appropriations under the State Technical Services Act through June 30, 1969.

PENNTAP, the Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program, was organized as a result of the federal State Technical Services Act of 1965. Its purpose is to disseminate the latest technological information to business, commerce, and industry in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In June, 1965, the Governor of Pennsylvania selected The Pennsylvania State University as the designated agency for the Commonwealth. Then, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University approved the establishment of the Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program at the University.

Responsibility for PENNTAP was given to the Continuing Education division of the University. This provides closer coordination of the University-based, non-instructional services designed to assist business, industry, government, and other organized groups. Such coordination helps to assure maximum use of the University's resources.

The PENNTAP Director, who is responsible for the program, reports through the Director of continuing Education to the President of The Pennsylvania State University. The organizational structure is illustrated in Figure 1.

To fulfill the requirements of the Act, an Advisory Council was appointed by the Designated Agency. The Council, whose membership represents broad community interests, evaluates the annual State program and acts in an advisory capacity to the PENNTAP Director.

Qualified institutions of higher learning in Pennsylvania—colleges, universities, private non-profit institutions, and appropriate government agencies—are invited annually to submit proposals of technical assistance projects. PENNTAP then contracts with the proposers of approved projects to carry out the technical services.

Before the State Technical Services Act, numerous public and private institutions provided a full complement of services to business and industry in the Commonwealth. For example, The Pennsylvania State University, the University of Pittsburgh, and Temple University have contributed continuing education programs covering the complete technical spectrum. The Mellon Institute (now a part of Carnegie-Mellon University) offered its famous technical symposia and industrial fellowship program. In Philadelphia, the Franklin Institute has long served industry through research, development, and information services.

However, even with such highly qualified institutions and organizations serving the Commonwealth, there was little collective effort. Interrelation of these technical assistance media had never been attempted. In addition, the numerous federal programs operating within Pennsylvania had not been coordinated.

The most important feature of PENNTAP is that it provides for an effective, unified system of information transfer. The STS Act stimulates an industrial assistance venture that probably would never have otherwise happened. In all probability, there would have been no coordinated attack on the overall needs of this Commonwealth nor the needs of the other states. And furthermore, there would not have been the coordination of competent teams of technical experts to "tackle" these needs.

The STSA has provided the opportunity to unite the technical interests, capabilities, and services which exist in each state. PENNTAP is demonstrating, in Pennsylvania, that a statewide technical communication system is possible if existing services are expanded and new ones are derived.

The primary purpose of PENNTAP—and STSA—is to facilitate the acquisition and use of the latest scientific and engineering information by business, commerce, and industry. In Pennsylvania, such technical assistance is essential to the development of industrial potential, economic growth, employment opportunities, and higher technological levels.