

education, vocational matters, industry, rehabilitation, mental health, and so on.

It might be well to take a more detailed look at the ways that psychology contributes in one of these several areas. Let us consider the mental health field, since this is an area which is receiving so much attention generally at present. Federal agencies employ well over a thousand clinical psychologists, not to mention those others who receive their support from state, local and private sources. The Veterans Administration alone employs 800 staff psychologists in its treatment program; in addition, it provides training for 750 psychology graduate students and utilizes the services of a like number of consultants. It has been estimated that about 85% of all psychotherapy performed in the VA program is done by psychologists. Approximately 450 psychologists serve as consultants to the Social Security Agency, as vocational and clinical experts in the field of evaluating the employability of claimants seeking compensation under disability laws. Psychologists serve on the National Advisory Mental Health Council, the Council of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and on the training and research grant panels of the National Institute of Mental Health. And Congress itself has recognized the contributions which psychology makes in the health and rehabilitation fields by including psychological services in the provisions of such important legislative acts as the *Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act Amendments of 1965, PL 89-105*.

The training of a psychologist typically involves the earning of a Ph. D. degree. This degree is at the same level as that earned by other scientists, such as physicists and biologists, in their particular specialties. It requires about five years of study beyond college graduation and includes training in basic psychology as a science, development of professional skills, and supervised practice in the field of specialization. Through the American Psychological Association, the 26,000-member national organization of psychologists, educational and professional standards have been established. These include formal accreditation of doctoral programs in clinical and counseling psychology in the graduate schools of universities, and internship programs in practicum agencies. The American Psychological Association is responsible for the establishment, maintenance, and extension of high professional standards in psychology. These standards have been formally incorporated into a code of ethics by which all psychologists are expected to govern themselves in their professional activities. Psychology has a strong commitment to the principle that the public welfare and the patient's and client's welfare take precedence in all professional psychological matters.

The American Board of Examiners in Professional Psychology (ABEPP) was established in 1947 to grant diplomate status, through examination, to those psychologists who have qualified themselves as advanced specialists in clinical, counseling or industrial psychology.

The services being provided by psychologists apply to vitally important segments of community life. Because of the importance of these matters, psychology has sought continuously to establish standards, controls and self-regulation through its national and local professional organizations. However, these standards and controls are limited to members of the professional organization and have no consequence to those individuals who either stay outside of, or are ineligible for membership in, the organizations. It is to make these standards applicable to all who function as psychologists, and thereby to protect the members of the community from substandard, unethical practice, that I urge the passage of this licensing bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in behalf of HR 10407.

Mr. SISK. Thank you, Dr. Cummings.

Do you have a statement Dr. Levy?

If so, you may proceed.

Dr. LEVY. Mr. Chairman and members of the Subcommittee. My name is Bernard J. Levy.

I would like to briefly summarize the comments which I submitted earlier to the committee.

Mr. SISK. Without objection, Dr. Levy's statement will be made a part of the record at this point, or following his oral presentation.

Dr. LEVY. Mr. Chairman and members of the Subcommittee.