

THIS SAME LETTER SENT TO:

Representative Fletcher Thompson
Senator Richard B. Russell
Senator Herman E. Talmadge

September 21, 1967

Honorable Ben B. Blackburn, III
1019 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Ben:

It is my understanding that hearings begin shortly in the Senate on the budget request of the Office of Economic Opportunity. The Atlanta Chamber of Commerce urges you to consider favorably this appropriation when it comes before you.

We have an opportunity to view at close range the results obtained from programs of Economic Opportunity Atlanta, Inc., the Atlanta area agency carrying out the poverty program, and we believe there have been invaluable gains made through these numerous programs. The many activities of EOA and its delegate agencies in the poverty areas here have been a major factor in creating and maintaining a climate under which we could all work toward solutions of mutual community problems.

It is our hope and belief that the education and training made available through poverty programs here and throughout the country, will enable many of those presently dependent on welfare to become self-sustaining, taxpaying citizens. Under all of the circumstances, we believe that the amounts being expended by OEO throughout the country, together with the local matching funds, represent investments that will pay rich dividends in years to come.

I am attaching a brief summary of the programs which have been funded through EOA since January, 1965 and I hope you will find time to review this record of accomplishment.

Sincerely yours,


A. H. Sterne, Jr.

AHS/frb

bcc: Mayor Ivan Allen ✓
Mr. Opie L. Shelton
Mr. Boisfeuillet Jones