

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30308

February 9, 1968

Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr.  
Mayor of Atlanta  
68 Mitchell Street, S. W.  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mayor Allen:

The 1967 Amendments to the Economic Opportunity Act made important changes in the requirements for community action agencies which conduct local anti-poverty programs under Title II of the Act.

The new amendments give state and local governments the right to designate the community action agency to serve their areas. The relevant government may designate the existing CAA as the agency to carry on the anti-poverty program after July 1, 1968. Alternatively, it may elect to designate itself or another public agency or private non-profit organization to assume responsibility for community action programs. As a general matter an existing community action agency must cease operations by February 1, 1969, if the second alternative is chosen. In addition, all community action agencies--both new and old--must satisfy the revised requirements concerning the composition of the agency's board of directors by July 1, 1968. By May 1, 1968, existing CAA's must submit certification that such requirements have been met or that they will be met prior to July 1, 1968.

The enclosed booklet explains the amendments and the policies, procedures and application forms which must be followed. It is important that you familiarize yourself with those policies and procedures at once, since steps must be taken very quickly if compliance with the new requirements is not to result in disruption of vital services to the poor in those communities which already have community action agencies.

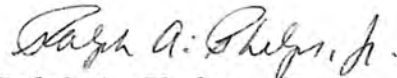
Please note that the state or local government designation of a community action agency and the accompanying application to OEO for its recognition should be received by OEO not later than July 1, 1968. Other local governments within the area to be served by the agency must be notified of the intention to apply at least 45 days beforehand--that is, not later than May 15, 1968.

*Don  
Please Study  
& Advise me*

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In view of this time schedule, I cannot stress too strongly the need for prompt attention to the enclosed booklet. Copies of the application forms may be obtained for your use by filling out and returning the enclosed Notice of Intention to Designate which we would like to have by March 15, 1968. I urge you to do so as soon as possible so that we can be of maximum assistance to you. The name of the OEO official who has immediate responsibility for your area is listed below. Please feel free to contact him after you have read the enclosed materials.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Phelps, Jr.  
Regional Director