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FROM
WASHINGTON OFFICE
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July 11, 1958

Would Pay Both Public,
Parochial School Rides

WASHINGTON--(BP)--Federally subsidized bus transportation for school children "attending public, parochial, or like schools in the District of Columbia" has been proposed to the Congress.

Two bills (S. 4090 and S. 4091) introduced by Sen. James Glenn Beall (R., Md.), provide for a governmental subsidy to the common carriers of the District of Columbia that transport school children at a reduced rate.

At the present time the D. C. Transit Company, as a part of its franchise agreement and for which it receives no other compensation, transports both public and parochial school children at a reduced fare. There is no oth r public school transportation system, but some private schools provide transportation for their pupils.

S. 4090 provides that the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia shall purchase bus tickets at regular fare and shall offer the tickets for sale to school children at a rate not to exceed one-half the price paid for them.

S. 4091 provides that each common carrier in the District after each school year shall present a bill to the District, based on the difference of regular fare and the reduced rate for all school children carried during the year. The Board of Commissioners is to pay the amount within 30 days after receiving such certification.

The reason given for the proposed legislation is that the D. C. Transit Company wants a subsidy from the government to pay the difference between the reduced school fare and the regular fare.

Both of the above bills have been referred to the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, of which Sen. Alan Bible (D., Nev.) is chairman.

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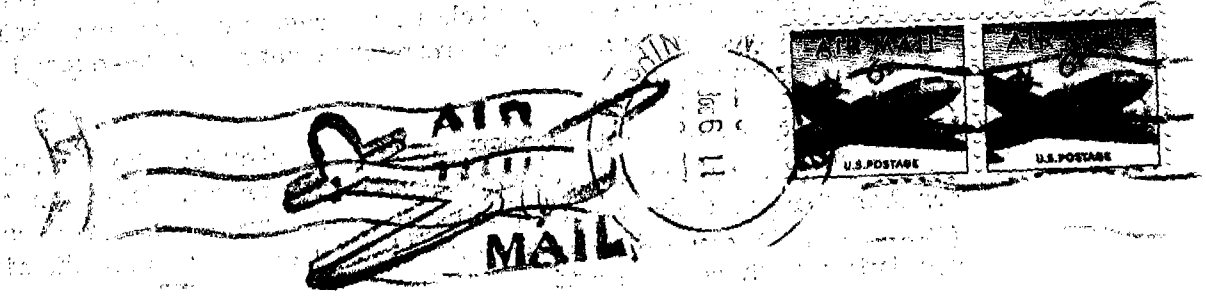

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W. BARRY GARRETT, *Regional Editor*

1628 Sixteenth St. N. W.

WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

RUSH
NEWS COPY

To

Theo Sommerkamp
Executive Committe
127 Ninth Avenue, North
Nashville, Tennessee

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AMERICAN BAPTIST CONVENTION
BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

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BAPTIST JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1628 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 9, D. C.
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C. EMANUEL CARLSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

W. BARRY GARRETT
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

July 11, 1958 put in Barry Garrett's punch folder of BP's

Dear Friend:

Knowing your interest in the educational problems of the nation, and also your concern for proper church-state relations, we are sending you a summary of the proposed National Defense Education Act of 1958, action on which is now pending in the House of Representatives. There is no way of knowing what amendments may be attached to the bill in the House or the changes that may be made in the Senate or the compromises that may be reached in a Joint Conference Committee of the Senate and House.

In the February issue of the Report From the Capital, Dr. Carlson gave a detailed analysis of the Elliott education bill. This new bill has been reworked by the House Committee on Education and Labor and replaces the earlier bill, although many of the provisions are the same or similar.

If you desire the complete text of the bill, copies may be secured free of charge by writing to the House Document Room, United States Capitol, Washington 25, D. C. Ask for H. R. 13247.

This summary of the education bill is a part of the Information Service of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. We hope you can make profitable use of this information.

Sincerely yours,

W. Barry Garrett

W. Barry Garrett

Enc.
WBG:am

NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION ACT OF 1958

(NOTE: This is a summary of H. R. 13247, introduced by Rep. Carl Elliott, D., Ala., in the House of Representatives, July 1, 1958, and reported out as a "clean" bill by the House Committee on Education and Labor on July 2, 1958. This summary is being sent out on July 11, 1958. It is expected that the Rules Committee of the House will schedule the bill for debate in the immediate future.)

By W. Barry Garrett
Associate Director, Baptist Joint Committee
On Public Affairs, Washington, D. C.

The stated purpose of the National Defense Education Act of 1958 (H. R. 13247) is "to provide substantial assistance in various forms to individuals for study at institutions of higher education, and to States and their subdivisions, in order to insure trained manpower of sufficient quality and quantity to meet the national defense needs of the United States."

The bill reaffirms the principle that States and local communities have control over and responsibility for public education, and it specifically provides that Federal control of education is prohibited. On the other hand the bill states that the national interest requires that the Federal Government give assistance to education for programs which are important to the national defense.

National Defense Scholarships

The bill provides National Defense Scholarships in the amount of $17,500,000 per year for five years, and for other appropriations for the next six years as are estimated to be necessary. The scholarships are for $500 during each academic year for qualifying students working on a bachelor's degree. Additional assistance not to exceed $500 a year may also be available to needy students approved by the State Education Commission.

Scholarships will be available to persons selected by State Commissions of Education on the basis of qualifications set forth in the bill. Special consideration is to be given to those students "with superior capacity or preparation in science, mathematics, or a modern foreign language." These students must be high school graduates and accepted for enrollment by an institution of higher education.

The National Defense Scholarship plan will be administered through the States that set up a State Commission on Scholarships and that set up a State plan that meets the provisions of the bill. "Each State shall be allotted an amount which bears the same ratio to the aggregate sum being allotted as its population between ages of 18 and 21, both inclusive, bears to the total population of all the States between such ages."

Loans to Students

The National Defense Education Act of 1958, if passed as proposed, also makes provision for loan funds for students. The seven-year loan program authorizes $40,000,000 the first year, $60,000,000 for each of the three succeeding years, and such sums as may be necessary the next three years to enable students to continue or complete their education.

The loan funds will be administered by institutions of higher learning in accordance with agreements between the Commissioner of Education and the institutions. Herein is a difference between the scholarships and the loans. Scholarships are administered by the States. Loans are administered by the institutions.

For the loan funds "the Commissioner shall allot to each State an amount which bears the same ratio to the amount so appropriated as the number of persons enrolled on a full-time basis in institutions of higher education in such State bears to the total number of persons enrolled on a full-time basis in institutions of higher education in all of the States."

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Loan funds are available to institutions of higher education (both public and private) upon application for Federal capital contributions from the allotment to the State in which the institution exists. The institution must contribute to the loan fund an amount not less than 25 per centum of the amount deposited by the Government. Thus the Government furnishes 80 per centum and the institution 20 per centum of the loan fund. The maximum Federal contribution to such funds may not exceed $250,000 to any institution.

In order to qualify for Federal student loan funds an institution must agree to the requirements set forth in the bill and also to the regulations and supervision of the Commissioner of Education.

The bill further provides loans to institutions for the institution's share of the loan fund. The institution must certify that it cannot secure such funds from non-Federal sources upon reasonable terms and conditions. Interest on such loans is at a rate equal to one fourth of 1 per centum above the rate payable by the Commissioner to the Treasury for funds borrowed to finance such loans. These loans must mature in 15 years or less. Thus an institution may set up a student loan fund with little or no money of its own.

Loans to students may not exceed $1,000 per school year nor $5,000 for the total of his school years. Loans are granted on the basis of need, capability, and continuing good standing of the student.

The rate of interest on the loans to students is 2 per centum per annum from the time the loan is made until one year after the student ceases to be a full time student in the institution. It then increases to 4 per centum per annum until the loan is paid. Repayment may be made in equal installments over a 10-year period, or it can be paid at any time prior to the end of the 10-year period.

No security or endorsement on the loan is required unless the borrower is a minor. Liability for repayment is cancelled upon the death or permanent or total disability of the borrower. The institution shall be the collecting agency.

After June 30, 1966 and not later than September 30, 1966, there shall be a capital distribution of the balance on the student loan fund by each institution participating. The repayment to the Government shall be made on the same basis as the percentage of contribution to the fund in the first instance. The institution may deduct the cost of operating the fund, amounts spent in litigation in collecting loans, and losses on unpaid loans.

Extensive supervisory and regulatory powers are granted to the Commissioner of Education in the administration of the loan funds to the institutions.

Grants for Equipment, Improvements

In order to help elementary or secondary schools or both to be better prepared to provide adequately for the increasing demands for education in science, mathematics and modern languages the bill provides funds for the acquisition of equipment and for minor remodeling. For these purposes the bill appropriates $60,000,000 the first year ending June 30, 1959, and for each of the three succeeding fiscal years. Proportionate distribution of these funds are to be made to State educational agencies and are to be administered by the States in accordance with agreements with the Commissioner of Education.

Distribution of the funds to the State is to be made after the State plan is approved and on the basis of the ratio of the State's school age population to that of the nation and the ratio of the income per child of school age for the State to the average income per child for the continental United States. By school age child is meant a person five years of age to 17 years of age inclusive. The amount for any State shall be in no case less than $20,000 per year.

The State educational agency will be the sole agency for administering the plan for grants for equipment and improvements, but it shall make periodic reports to the Commissioner of Education.

Grants made under this provision may be used for acquisition of laboratory and other special equipment, including audio-visual materials and equipment

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for printed materials other than textbooks, suitable for use in providing education in science, mathematics or modern foreign languages.

Language Development

The bill provides for the development of modern language institutes, language centers and research and study projects in the field of instruction in modern foreign languages.

Language institutes are to be arranged through contracts with institutions of higher education, for operation by the institutions, for advanced training in the use of new teaching methods and instructional materials for teachers of modern languages or for those preparing to teach such languages in schools at the elementary or secondary level or in institutions of higher education.

The contract may call for the Federal funds to pay for all or any part of the cost of the institute. The bill also provides for stipends to be paid to individuals attending any such institute, including allowances for dependents and for travel to and from their places of residence.

Language centers may also be established by contract with institutions of higher education, to be operated by the institutions, for the training of individuals in modern languages as are needed by the Federal Government or by business, industry or education in the United States. Provision is also made for instruction in other fields needed to provide a full understanding of the areas, regions or countries in which such language is commonly used.

Grants for language centers may not cover more than 50 per centum of the cost of their establishment and operation. Authorization is made to pay stipends to individuals undergoing advanced training in modern foreign language and related fields of study, but only upon reasonable assurance that the recipients of such stipends will, on completion of their training, be available for teaching such languages in an institution of higher education or for such other service of a public nature as may be permitted in regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

The Commissioner of Education is authorized, directly or by contract, to make studies and surveys to determine the need for increased or improved instruction in modern foreign languages and related fields, to conduct research on more effective methods of teaching such languages, and to develop specialized materials for use in such training.

The appropriation for carrying out the language development program is not to exceed $4,500,000 in any one fiscal year.

Graduate Education

The education bill also provides for fellowship grants to be used in the development of college or university level teachers. The first year ending June 30, 1959 the Commissioner of Education is authorized to award 1,000 fellowships, and during each of the three succeeding years he may award 1,500 fellowships. The fellowships shall not exceed three academic years.

The fellowships may be used only in approved institutions with graduate schools having a new or expanded program.

Stipends under these fellowships will be $2,000 for the first year of graduate study after the baccalaureate degree, $2,200 for the second year and $2,400 for the third. An additional $400 for each such year may be granted for each dependent of the student.

Provision is made for the institution giving such graduate study to be paid not less than $500 nor more than $2,500 per academic year for that portion of cost attributable to each person studying there under the fellowship program.

Guidance, Counseling, Testing

A two-fold program is authorized for the development of guidance, counseling and testing programs. One has to do with State Education Commissions and local educational agencies on the secondary level. The other is an arrangement with institutions of higher learning.

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On the State and local level (local means a board of education or other legally constituted local school authority) $15,000,000 per year for four years will be appropriated to establish and maintain programs of testing and guidance and counseling. No state is to receive less than $20,000 per year.

The purpose of the testing, guidance and counseling program is to identify students with outstanding ability and aptitude, to advise students of courses of study best suited to their ability, aptitudes and skills, and to encourage students to complete their secondary schools and to enter schools of higher education.

Through contracts with institutions of higher education the Commissioner of Education may establish institutes of courses in the counseling and guidance of students on the secondary level. These courses may be given either in summer schools or in regular sessions. The Commissioner will pay the institution the reasonable cost incurred in providing such institutes.

A person employed in public schools and who attends guidance and counseling institutes may be eligible for stipends of $75 per week during his attendance and an additional $15 a week for each of his dependents.

For the second part of this program appropriations of $6,000,000 a year for four years are authorized.

Radio, TV, Motion Pictures

Provision is made for the development of studies, surveys, experiments, demonstrations, etc., and to publish materials for the increased and improved use of radio, television and motion pictures in educational processes. Appropriations of $2,000,000 a year for four years for this purpose are authorized.

Other miscellaneous provisions of the bill provide for assistance to States to improve their educational statistic services for collecting and processing educational data, and for various regulations for the administration of the National Defense Education Act of 1958.

Types of Schools

For the purposes of this bill "elementary school" means a public school which provides elementary education as determined under State law. "Secondary school" means a public school which provides secondary education, as determined under State law, except it does not include education beyond grade 12.

The term "institution of higher education" is defined in detail by the bill, but in general it includes colleges and universities which are either public or other non-profit institutions.