

FEB 26 1965

GODDARD COLLEGE
PLAINFIELD, VERMONT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 24, 1965

Senator Winston L. Prouty
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Prouty:

Thank you for your letter of the 12th with its enclosure of a copy of Senate Bill 600. I regret that the confusion of dates made it impossible for you to meet with the Committee on National Educational Policy of the Vermont Higher Education Council earlier in the winter, as the Committee is concerned with some of the principles involved in S. 600. Inasmuch as the Committee has not had an opportunity to discuss the bill, the views contained in this letter are mine and may not reflect those of the Committee. I am hopeful that you will receive comments from the presidents of all the Vermont institutions of higher education.

The main features of the bill seem to me to be good. There are, however, some weaknesses in it. Section 105 provides that the contribution of the Federal Government to continuing education shall decline in percent from 90 to 50. This provision places the colleges in a difficult position and forces them to use their scant resources to secure other forms of aid for programs which are designed to serve the national interest. I believe such a policy to be unsound, and I would urge strongly that the Federal Government pay the full cost of the programs for continuing education, on the ground that no single locality, state, or region is being served but that the whole nation is being served by any sound program of continuing education.

In the main the provisions of Title II are excellent. However, I would strongly recommend that Section 206 be modified so that a college that is not accredited by a regional agency or association or that is not assured that it will be accredited upon acquisition of library resources may qualify for support. For the most part the colleges that need library assistance most are those that are not likely to be accredited soon. It is a mistake to assume that accreditation is a mark of high quality. I would, therefore, urge that the section be modified to provide

that any college that has received the approval of ^{an} appropriate state agency be eligible for funds under this title. If the bill were in effect now, it is unlikely that Marlboro College, Windham College, St. Joseph's College, and the College of St. Joseph the Provider would be eligible; yet each of these colleges is making an important contribution in higher education.

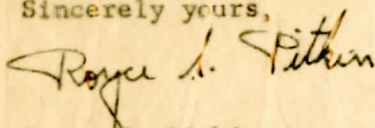
The purpose of Title III is highly commendable, but the proposal for a teaching fellow program seems to me ill conceived. As a result of several years of association with a large number of small colleges struggling with inadequate resources, I have come to believe that their need is not to have a teaching fellow program which draws on the talent of more affluent institutions. A much greater need is to make available to those colleges the services of well qualified consultants on a continuing basis. There is good reason to believe that the administrators and teachers from the more affluent institutions understand the problems of the small struggling college. There are, however, persons like Professor H. H. Giles of New York University and Professor Lewis Mayhew of Stanford University, to give illustrations from the East and West Coast, who are familiar with the problems of these colleges and who could be of tremendous help to them if they could be available as consultants to colleges for a period of years. I would, therefore, urge that Section 301 be revised to make such a provision possible.

Although I haven't had a chance to study Title IV as thoroughly as it deserves, my impression is that most of its features are acceptable and desirable. An exception is Section 407(a). There seems to me no good reason why an institution should be required to make use of the Student Loan Fund under Title II of the National Defense Education Act and the Work Study Program under Part C of Title I of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 in order to participate in the provisions of this Title. I would strongly urge the deletion of that requirement.

Except for the reservations I have made, I would strongly urge that you support S. 600, but that you do all you can to make the changes I have suggested.

If you think it would be useful, I would be glad to ask the Committee on National Educational Policy of the Vermont Higher Education Council to meet with you to discuss the bill, as well as the various proposals for the creation of a National Humanities Foundation and a National Arts Foundation.

Sincerely yours,



Royce E. Pitkin
President

RSP/esb

Copies to Members of the Committee on National Educational Policy
of the Vermont Higher Education Council

Senator George D. Aiken

Congressman Robert T. Stafford

COPY

February 26, 1965

*Mr. Aiken
Educ*

Dr. Royce S. Pitkin
President
Goddard College
Plainfield, Vermont

Dear Tim:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter
of February 24 to Senator Prouty.

I am glad to have your views on the education
bill, S. 600.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE D. AIKEN

GDA:am

*Sent Jan
Nov. 18, 65*