

AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS
29TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

The work from which this copy was made did not include a formal copyright notice. This work may be protected under U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S. Code), which governs reproduction, distribution, public display, and certain other uses of protected works. Uses may be allowed by permission of the copyright holder, or if the copyright on the work has expired, or if the use is "fair use" or within another exemption. The user of this work is responsible for determining lawful uses.

2371 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TELEPHONE: 225-2201

COMMITTEES:
CHAIRMAN, EDUCATION AND LABOR
SUBCOMMITTEE
ELEMENTARY, SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, CHAIRMAN
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

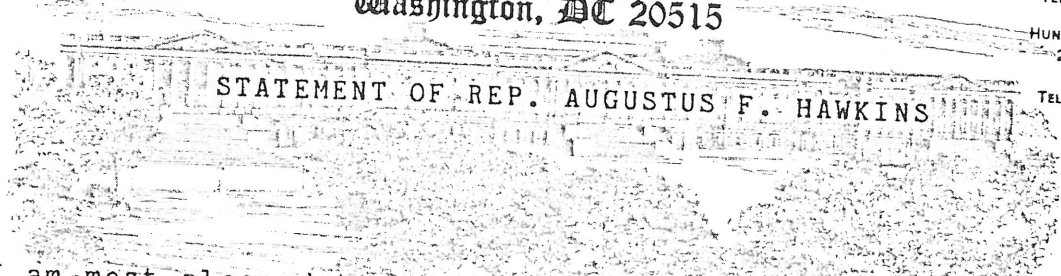
MARK J. MOLLI
SPECIAL ASSISTANT

LOS ANGELES OFFICE:
4809 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES, CA 90037
TELEPHONE: 750-0280

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

HUNTINGTON PARK OFFICE:
2710 ZOE AVENUE
90255
TELEPHONE: 587-0421

5/13/85



STATEMENT OF REP. AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS

I am most pleased to rise, along with my colleague on the Education and Labor Committee, Rep. Dale Kildee, in support of House Concurrent Resolution 95, commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Head Start Program, and House Concurrent Resolution 132, commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Older Americans Act. Both of these human needs programs are targeted at the most vulnerable groups of people in our society -- the very young and the very old

Head Start is often looked upon as the "crown jewel" of the Great Society programs enacted during the Johnson Administration in the 1960's. Head Start has provided much-needed health, nutrition, educational and social services to hundreds of thousands of our nation's poorest children over the last 20 years. Unfortunately, current funding levels allow only about 20% of the children eligible to participate in the program, leaving some 2 million youngsters without the benefits the program provides.

Statistics show that the Head Start Program is cost effective, both for individuals as well as for society as a whole. Head Start gives disadvantaged children a boost as they enter school and prevents far more costly services later due to juvenile delinquency, illiteracy or welfare dependency. Longitudinal studies have shown that children who have participated in Head Start achieve higher

grades in school and are less likely to require special or remedial education. These same students also graduate from high school at a much higher rate and are more likely to secure gainful employment later in life. Head Start participants also have lower arrest and pregnancy rates than their peers who have not had the advantages the Head Start can provide. I believe continued support for this program is vital to improve the chances that our young people will be adequately nurtured, educated, trained and ready to face the challenges of the future.

Another sound investment of tax dollars is found in the variety of social service programs authorized by the Older Americans Act. We have a moral responsibility to ensure the well-being of our older citizens. The services provided by the Act are targeted to meet the special needs of the elderly in the areas of income, health, housing, employment, retirement and community services. For example, under the Act senior citizen centers are maintained for the care and companionship of the elderly; nutrition and health assistance programs are made available; home-delivered meals and other vital services are provided to those elderly who are homebound; employment programs for low-income older persons are provided in senior nutrition centers, children's hospitals, State parks, libraries and State and local community service agencies; in addition, the Act authorizes training, research and demonstration programs in the field of aging, such as research on Alzheimer's disease, legal services for

The work from which this copy was made did not include a formal copyright notice. This work may be protected under U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S. Code), which governs reproduction, distribution, public display, and certain other uses of protected works. Uses may be allowed with permission from the rightsholder, or if the copyright on the work has expired, or if the use is "fair use" or within another exemption. The user of this work is responsible for determining lawful uses.

older persons, home heating assistance and other projects designed to improve the livelihood of the elderly and give them greater independence and dignity.

I urge my colleagues to vote favorably on these two important resolutions which acknowledge and reinforce our commitment to the nurturing of our young citizens and to the continued support for our senior citizens.

The work from which this copy was made did not include a formal copyright notice. This work may be protected under U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S. Code), which governs reproduction, distribution, public display, and certain other uses of protected works. Uses may be allowed with permission from the rights holder, or if the copyright on the work has expired, or if the use is "fair use" or within another exemption. The user of this work is responsible for determining lawful uses.