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MINNESOTA RADIO TAPE OF APRIL 3, 1963
FOR BROADCAST WEEK BEGINNING APRIL 7

Ladies and gentlemen---

This is Senator Hubert Humphrey, reporting to you
from my office on Capitol Hill in Washington....

As I record this report to you now, the Senate is
preparing to take up one of the most important bills of
the Congressional session---my Youth Employment Act.

I predict the Senate will approve this bill. We have
clear evidence of overwhelming public support for the bill's
two main programs: A Youth Conservation Corps to put young
men to work in the national forests and other public lands,
and a "hometown" youth corps to give both young men and
women on-the-job training in their own communities.

Before final Senate approval of the Youth Employment Act, there will be thorough debate and discussion on its provisions.

Inevitably, the critics of the Youth Employment Act will in the Senate debate base their objections on two claims.

First, they will say that the Youth Employment Act does not really provide any practical job training for the young men and women who will participate.

Second, they will claim that the program is not "fiscally responsible" and that it will cost too much, particularly for the supervision and training of enrollees in the Youth Conservation Corps.

Both charges are nonsense, and I will be in the middle of the Senate debate to be sure that the record includes the facts relating to the training opportunities and the costs of the Youth Conservation Corps.

First, let's look at the facts about the training opportunities and work skills which will be available to the young men who enroll in the Youth Conservation Corps.

They will be under the direct supervision of adult experts in conservation and many other work areas. The critics of the program would have you believe that the enrollees in the Corps will do little more than rake leaves. The truth is that these young men will have a chance to acquire skills and on-the-job training in such areas as automotive repairing, baking, carpentry, construction equipment operation, cooking, conservation and engineering aid, electrical wiring, masonry, metal working, photography, plumbing, surveying and mapping, and many other jobs.

In addition, each Youth Conservation Corps enrollee will be given weekly classroom instruction in subjects ranging from accounting to university preparation.

The second charge of critics of the Youth Conservation

Corps---that it will cost too much---is just as easily demolished.

They claim that it will cost between \$9,000 and \$12,000 a year to support one Y.C.C. enrollee, and they charge that the program is thus fiscally irresponsible.

Frankly, the irresponsibility comes from the exaggerated and misleading use of figures by the program's critics.

The fact is that it will cost less than \$4,000 a year for each Y.C.C. enrollee. And even if the amortized cost per year for equipment and camp construction is added, the total will still be less than \$4,500 per enrollee.

More important than the immediate costs of the Youth Conservation Corps is the long-range increase of revenue which can be expected to result from the work of the Youth Conservation Corps. The Forest Service reports that each dollar spent on cultural treatment and planting will increase

the value of timber stands by \$5 within ten year. And work to thin young hardwood timber stands will in 50 years increase the value of the return by 50 per cent.

These are the facts of the Youth Conservation Corps. Above all, the Youth Conservation Corps will help to reduce unemployment of our young people and help to end the tragic waste of their time, energies, and talents at a critical point in their lives.

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