Honorable Herbert H. Lehman
United States Senate

Dear Senator Lehman:

Your letter of August 19, 1955 refers to a subject to which I have given considerable thought. My representatives and I brought this development to the attention of members of Congress individually and in committee session at the time consideration was being given to extension of the Universal Military Training and Service Act and Reserve legislation.

There is evidence the problem may not be quite so acute as it has been described. One factor is that upon inquiry we have been generally informed the report that men are unable to obtain employment because they are in Class I-A is more often an excuse than a true reason for the inability to secure employment. Another is that the opportunities afforded by Reserve legislation are expected by many persons to drain off considerable of the available manpower into Reserve status and as a result registrants will not remain in Class I-A so long as they have in the past. Still another is that, according to our computations, the armed forces must soon call upon the Selective Service System through the Secretary of Defense for larger monthly induction calls.

The situation is being watched carefully to ascertain what effect the latter two factors will produce. Developments during the next three or four months should provide us with evidence as to whether further action may be necessary.

I trust this provides you with the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

DIRECTOR