

Mr. BELL. If the gentleman will yield.

Mr. HAWKINS. Certainly, if I have any time left.

Mr. BELL. I am not suggesting that we should eliminate all of the youth conservation programs entirely. I am just suggesting that maybe in most instances the State government can handle it. You have also a voluntary program and all these people might, I think, be more interested in volunteering if they are going to be within the reasonable area of their homes, perhaps, in the same State but in some cases a different area of the State.

Mr. HAWKINS. You vaguely say let the State have it. Take the State of California, which is certainly one of the more prosperous States. You are suggesting that our State can assume the financial responsibility of handling this problem when it is the Republicans in Sacramento who today are voting against the appropriations of the budget. Do you think they would accept a program to increase the taxes of the people of California? Are you suggesting this?

Mr. BELL. Mr. Hawkins, I want to, first of all, say I have suggested matching funds in which the Federal Government would be paying part of the bill just as many other programs we have in the State today are on a matching basis. I am not suggesting that California would be by itself in this program.

Mr. HAWKINS. Even if it means increasing taxes in our State?

Mr. BELL. I am saying mostly through a matching fund arrangement programs could be set up and there is a program today in California, a conservation pilot program and it is fairly large for a pilot program which is operating today.

I have talked to the people in California and the one thing they wanted was to be sure that there was no Federal control in directing it. They wanted their resources to be used. They have lots of places to use them but they wanted the State to control it.

Mr. HAWKINS. Who is going to pay the bill?

Mr. BELL. I am suggesting a matching program. The State pays part and the Federal pays part of it.

Mr. HAWKINS. It seems to me we get back to the old story. On the Federal level, we say the State should do it. On the State level, it is usually members of your own party who oppose these heavy expenditures. They in effect say let the Federal Government do it.

Mr. BELL. When you say who is doing it, you are not talking about the Federal Government doing it on a matching basis. In some cases, our matching arrangements are higher than 50-50. So the Federal Government could be doing the lion's share of it in some cases. I am saying that the State should have control over it, not put up all the money. That is what I am saying.

Mr. PERKINS. Mr. Gibbons.

Mr. GIBBONS. How many Indians are there who are actually involved in reservations?

Mr. SCHIFTER. The total Indian population of the United States is about 650,000. The reservation population is about 380,000.

Mr. GIBBONS. Is the problem primarily on the reservation?

Mr. SCHIFTER. Yes. There are some off reservation, too, but then it becomes not an Indian problem but really a problem of various communities.