

What we are doing is saying out of one corner of our mouth that we want to strengthen the State department, but at the same time establish another department that has a great deal more in the way of finances, and which will have more authority and more travel funds and everything else to go out and work with the local people. That is my concern.

Dr. HOPPER. Yes. Well, it seems to me we have a variety of different kinds of functions involved here. First off, we have in the Office of Education responsibilities for administering the actions of the Congress. I do not see our work in a regional laboratory conflicting with at all the work of the regional office, here. It is not a matter of authority—

Mrs. GREEN. Let me interrupt there, if I may.

To refresh my recollection on the original legislation, we did not provide that nonprofit corporations run the regional laboratories. How was this arrived at?

Dr. HOPPER. You mean in the original co-op research back in 1956, when that was initiated?

Mrs. GREEN. Under what authority is your regional lab supported?

Dr. HOPPER. Title IV of 89-10.

Mrs. GREEN. There is nothing in the law that sets up a regional lab as a nonprofit corporation to be run by a separate board?

Dr. HOPPER. No. Not as such. But a general statement appears in the legislation, which has been further spelled out in the implementation of the guidelines.

Mrs. GREEN. This is the Office of Education, then?

Dr. HOPPER. The Office of Education.

Mrs. GREEN. Through its guideline it has set up the nonprofit corporation. Is that right?

Dr. HOPPER. No. No; the people in this region have set up the nonprofit corporation.

Mrs. GREEN. Where did they get the authority to do this?

Dr. HOPPER. Just like any group can get together and form a private corporation.

Mrs. GREEN. From what Federal legislation did this authority stem?

Dr. HOPPER. Public Law 89-10, title IV, provides the opportunity for nonprofit educational corporations to receive funds.

Mrs. GREEN. And then the Office of Education wrote the guidelines and the rules and regulations, setting up the regional lab. Serving on that committee, I never visualized this.

Dr. HOPPER. Frankly, once again, I can only speak from my understanding since July of this year, but in the discussions as I was working over on another title, in a different kind of administration, I heard something about the laboratory development.

To me, contemplated in the legislation is a series of educational laboratories. It didn't specify the number, precisely. It didn't say how large, but it provided a network for the entire Nation to carry research findings and interpret those research findings for use in a particular part of the country, this sort of thing. This is my understanding.

Mrs. GREEN. One very small question. Has your board cut your travel funds?