

Let me state very clearly my own position, and I may be in disagreement with some people in the room.

But after having said that, may I also say that I was a very strong supporter of the Fountain amendment in the last session of Congress.

I did think that the instances to which you refer in your brief, where individual employees went out and circulated memorandums, where the action was deferred on applications for new funds—went beyond the law.

I think the overwhelming vote in the House indicated that the House recognized the problem you have stated this morning.

And I assure you that as one member of the Education Committee, I intend to turn my attention to this in the next session.

Congressman Erlenborn.

Mr. ERLBORN. I think, in the consideration of time, I will waive any right to ask questions.

Mrs. GREEN. Congressman Flynt?

Mr. FLYNT. Thank you, Mrs. Green.

I am not going to usurp the prerogatives of you, as chairman, and Mr. Erlenborn as a member of this subcommittee.

I would like to say for the record, however, that I think that the conduct of these meetings by you has been most meaningful. I think that this is the most effective way that you could have obtained direct information, such as has been presented to you yesterday and today by dedicated people, people who are making every effort to make this Federal-State-local partnership a fruitful reality.

In this instance, to make all funds, from whatever source derived, that are allocated to education, improve educational standards, and thereby improve the education which we are offering to the young men and young women of the respective States and of our entire country.

If I may be permitted to do so, let me say this: Recognizing that on some particular piece of legislation, the gentlewoman from Oregon and myself occasionally find ourselves casting opposite votes, during the entire period of the service of the gentlewoman from Oregon, I have come to know her as a Member of Congress, possessing integrity and ability.

I think that in the field of legislation affecting public education at elementary, secondary, and higher education levels, our colleagues in the Congress recognize the gentlewoman from Oregon, the Honorable Edith Green, as a person who has done massive research, and has applied to that research an abundance of good judgment and common-sense.

So I think that I not only speak for my colleagues in the Congress when I say that we recognize her devotion and dedication to this subject of education, particularly as a legislative subject, but as a part of the State of Georgia and of the southeastern region of the United States, I think that I speak for certainly those with whom I have discussed this meeting, that we are indeed grateful to you and Congressman Erlenborn for coming and visiting with us and receiving the points of view which we have heard.

We are indeed grateful to you.

And I cannot let this opportunity pass without thanking my colleague from Illinois, Congressman Erlenborn, for joining Chairman Green in the conduct of these hearings.