

However, NSBA recognizes there are certain education issues that transcend State boundaries and that the Federal Government has a legitimate interest in developing programs to meet these needs of national defense and also the special needs of special groups.

At the same time we are really concerned about the impact of too many categorical aids upon the school system. It is possible that if these kinds of aids are continued without additional unearmarked aid being given, then you might develop an unbalanced curriculum and at the same time not give attention to some very important areas.

So here on this particular question again the delegate assembly said that the Federal funds appropriated for public education purposes should include funds in the form of general aid administered without Federal control to the U.S. Office of Education and the appropriate State agencies in accordance with State policy.

Now, a general aid program would provide the maximum kind of flexibility through which State and local school systems could meet the needs of their particular locality. In addition to support for certain categorical aids as well as general aid, NSBA has for several years been in favor of financial aid to school districts in which the Federal Government installations affect the population and also its revenue.

Another concern that we have is that oftentimes programs are adopted and funded for entirely too short a period of time. They can give you an opportunity to really plan and to make arrangements for the program itself.

Now, recognizing the legal restrictions upon appropriating money ahead of time of use, the NSBA does feel that steps should be taken to insure the need for long-range appropriations might be met.

One of these would be careful consultation with the Bureau of the Budget about future financial needs of Federal education programs which have been inaugurated. The NSBA feels that the involvement of local and State policymaking groups in the gathering of the necessary information to be presented to the Bureau of the Budget and to the Congress would do much to overcome the problems of short-range appropriations.

Otherwise, programs instituted one year sometimes have to be curtailed the next year because of lack of funds. In addition, there have actually been instances where the programs authorized have not been funded in time in order to be put into effect by the local school system.

One of the more serious concerns that NSBA has about educational legislation that has been passed through the 89th session is that many programs were implemented too rapidly and, therefore, you have had inadequate planning time for the local school systems to put the program into effect and consequently, many, many problems arose and in many instances it was inability to even staff the program.

Now, these problems at the local level have increased our attention to the role of Federal Government in education. Also there has been failure to consider the State and local administration cost. While it is true that the effort has been made to include these costs in funding, you still have a serious situation at hand. Certainly consultation with State and local agencies would have helped, I think, to have avoided a good many of these problems.

Mr. QUIE. Could you cite an example here when you say "Failure to consider State and local administration costs"?