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Mr. HOWE. Title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act addresses itself to the strengthening of State educational agencies.

State educational agencies have experienced rapid growth, but that growth has not been a balanced one. It has occurred largely where Federal concern for education has been expressed in Federal funds.

One of our major new proposals here can be interpreted as an effort to bring greater balance into the efforts of the States as they try to strengthen particularly their planning capacity which has not been given as much emphasis as it might in connection with title V funds as they have developed over the past year or two.

The amendments which we are proposing to title V are two: The first would amend the allotment formula contained in section 503 in order to provide for a more equitable distribution of funds.

According to the present formula, 85 percent of the appropriated funds are available for allotment under section 503. Of these funds, 98 percent are allotted to the States first on the basis of \$100,000 per State, and the remainder on the basis of public school enrollment.

The remaining 2 percent go to outlying areas. Smaller and less populous States have suffered from this distribution formula. We are suggesting a new distribution formula: 40 percent of the amount available for apportionment among the States under section 503 would be allotted to the States in equal amounts.

The remaining 60 percent would be allotted on the basis of public school population, thereby solving the problem some of the smaller or less populous States have had.

Our second proposal for amending title V is designed to meet a vital need in the educational community, and in our society—long-range educational planning. We are asking the Congress to authorize an appropriation of \$15 million to begin this program. Systematic, comprehensive, long-range educational planning at all levels is essential if our Nation's educational needs are to be met.

If present programs are to be effectively coordinated and approved to fill the needs of each child, if new programs are to be developed to meet unmet needs, objective evaluation of resources, goals, and methods of meeting goals must be carried out.

Evaluation is impossible unless reliable information concerning the effectiveness of the education provided to our children is obtained and analyzed.

In writing title V, the Congress suggested 10 areas in which the States agencies might be strengthened. The very first is "educational planning on a statewide basis, including the identification of educational problems, issues, and needs in the States and the evaluation on a periodic or continuing basis of education programs in the State."