

basically need. I think one of the main features of this program is good. It has made school districts one way or the other lay out on the table the education of deprived children, the programs they are not carrying on.

I think, as a matter of experience I would hope we would eliminate some of the paperwork that is actually involved in the applications. I think the second year's experience has been better than the first year's experience. Nevertheless, we all agree that this is a major problem. But to identify the educationally deprived and make them take a look at the type of education program that is going to meet the needs of these children, I think, is one of the more beneficial parts of this.

Now to get rid of some of the paper and some of the reporting funds is one that I think will take some time to work on. We need to eliminate them.

Mr. GOODELL. You all smiled and hesitated when I asked the question. I am sure you did so because you have heard many complaints such as we have heard from the local level that you people operating at the State level would not perhaps feel as strongly about as the local people do who have to fill out those forms.

Chairman PERKINS. The gentleman from New York has asked a most interesting question. I am certainly hopeful to hear some more encouraging comment and response to the gentleman's question than I have heard this far. He simply has asked the question, as I understood it, you had any ideas, if you knew of any ways that title I applications could be simplified, and that embodies the guidelines from the Office of Education to the State office.

Mr. GOODELL. That is correct.

Chairman PERKINS. Now I would like to hear your comments. If there are no comments on that, no suggestions, I would assume that the administration of it is just about perfect.

Mr. GOODELL. Now the gauntlet is down.

Chairman PERKINS. So let us hear your comments on that in response to the question from the gentleman from New York.

Mr. GOODELL. May the record at least indicate the wincing of the witnesses when you said "almost perfect."

Mr. JOHNSTON. Then I will reply a little more definitely, if this is what you want.

It is, of course, included in the guidelines. I think we all wish frankly that the reaction to some of the reports we have to make could be better. The local districts have the same type of responsibility. I think basically if the applications could get down to the point of believing and trusting that local education officials and State officials are just as concerned with wanting to help the educationally deprived as any one else in the United States is, then what we would need in this is to identify the children that need the programs, and identification of the programs. And this could be done a lot simpler than we do at the present time.

I think I have in my briefcase in the back of the room some 15 pages of comments from my staff on the reporting forms that are required by the U.S. Office of Education and embraced in the guidelines, including the financial reporting. I think there are a lot of materials asked for that it is nice to know, if you have the time and expenditure