

I hesitate to comment on this; but it sounds to me, from what you say, as if it would be wise to set up a professional staff using these funds, which would report through that agency you mentioned.

Mr. GIBBONS. Your answer, as I understand it, is that this State Board of Education of Florida, the Governor could ignore that and could appoint his own special agency. Am I correct in that?

Secretary GARDNER. I think in the legal sense the way the legislation is now written you are correct.

Mr. GIBBONS. Thank you, sir.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Bell.

Mr. BELL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Secretary, it is my pleasure to see you here and to read the very fine statement which you made. Mr. Secretary, I was concerned at the end of last year's session with the action of the appropriation bill. As you know, we transferred Adult Basic Education from the Anti-Poverty Act to the Commissioner of Education. When we made that transfer, however, the Appropriations Committee did not allot additional funds.

So, the Office of Education was left with, I believe, something like a deficit of \$25 million.

Secretary GARDNER. \$30 million.

Mr. BELL. Yes. That was supposed to be transferred with the adult education to the Commissioner of Education's jurisdiction, but it was not. Now what happened in that case? Are you suffering from that situation? Are you having to rob Peter to pay Paul to do that job adequately?

Secretary GARDNER. I would like to ask Nolan Estes to tell you that story.

Mr. ESTES. I must say we are not without our problem because of this. The end result was that we took \$16 million from title I. We took \$12 million from title III of the "Elementary and Secondary Education" appropriation.

Mr. BELL. How much from 1?

Mr. ESTES. \$16 million. And we took \$3 or \$4 million from title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act appropriation. Each of these amounts appropriated was subtracted by that amount.

Mr. BELL. Then in effect what happened there, as I see it, there really was no adult education program at all. So you were left with \$30 million you had to take from other places, or you could not take care of the important adult basic education program from the standpoint of what was properly allotted to it.

Now what happened was that you then, in effect, cut back, had to cut back some very important programs under title I that you are now saying are short of money, and title III which you are saying are short of money. But you robbed \$16 million from the very important title I, which you could very well have used. Then you took another amount as you said from title III, from that project. That seems to me a rather unfortunate procedure you should have to follow. Do you not believe this?

Mr. ESTES. This, of course, is not the only area which resulted in a decrease of funds. The amendments, as you know, using the latest AFDC data, 1965 data, resulted in a decrease of funds, also including