

Secretary GARDNER. Mr. Ford, we worry about this a good deal. I would like to ask Commissioner Howe to tell you about it.

Mr. HOWE. I would like to make one or two comments, and then ask Mr. Estes to say a word on it. First of all, in the differences between fiscal 1966 and 1967 we, I believe, can show quite clearly that we try to inform both chief State school officers and local superintendents reasonably about the funding they could expect to have under the budget amounts that were being planned. I think there have been problems in this program.

Mr. FORD. Because of the very limited time, let us stick to the difference between fiscal 1967 and 1968. The formula was basically the same in 1966 and 1967, but we have changed the substantive law so that the money will be allocated according to a new formula in fiscal 1968. What are you telling the people with respect to what they can expect as of now, if we fully fund what the President has asked for in fiscal 1968?

Some of the big States are going to have to lose some money.

Mr. HOWE. That is correct, sir. We will tell the school districts and the States this spring the amounts of money that the \$1,200 million will make available to the States, and give the school districts some percentage guidance, as we did last year on this same point.

Mr. FORD. Now I would like to go back to title V-B for a moment. I presume that when we talk about the State that we are talking about some group in the State appointed by the respective Governors of the States. In light of what the Secretary and Mr. Howe said this morning, it seems clear that in administering this program you would presume that normally the Governor would, by assigning this responsibility to the people who generally handle elementary and secondary education in that State, superintendent of public instruction or whatever the agency might be.

With that in mind, would you have any objection if this legislation picked up from Public Law 89-10 under title VI this definition in subsection (k):

The term "State educational agency" means the State board of education or other agency or officer primarily responsible for the State supervision of public elementary and secondary school, or, if there is no such officer or agency, then officer or agency designated by the Governor or by State law.

Would you have any objection to that kind of provision in lieu of the very vague language that we presently have in the bill before us?

Mr. HOWE. Listening to it, off the cuff, Mr. Ford, it seems to me a possibility. We would like to examine that. I think that the main reason for our getting into this posture vis-a-vis the Governor is the fact that long-range planning automatically creates long-range commitments in which both the Governor and the legislature become involved and it affects other activities in the State besides education.

We would like to examine this possibility as an alternative to the one we propose.

Mr. O'HARA. Mr. Secretary, in response to Mr. Ford's question the Commissioner indicated that they would be telling the school districts this spring how much they might expect under the budget request made for the operation for the next fiscal year. I wonder if you could inform the committee in the very near future just what the al-