

Mrs. GREEN. There is nothing to prevent us from doing it that way.

Mr. BRIGGS. You thought you were doing it with title II.

Mrs. GREEN. I come from a big city in Oregon. Portland. So I know exactly your problems, but I don't think it is fair for you to ask the Congress to do what you ought to be asking the State legislature to do in Ohio, and what the people in Portland ought to be asking the State legislature to do in Oregon.

The basic school formula in Oregon, I think, is unfair to the city, and from what you say in Ohio it isn't fair to Cleveland, but that isn't a congressional responsibility; that is a State responsibility.

Mr. BRIGGS. You must realize, I am sure, Mrs. Green, that my voice is being heard in Ohio relative to this on this very subject, yes.

Mrs. GREEN. Right, and I hope you can get the desired changes made.

Mr. BRIGGS. But this is a fact of life.

Mrs. GREEN. Let me ask you, if there were general aid, would it be spent in equally good ways, as far as the quality and equality of educational opportunity in Cleveland is concerned?

Mr. BRIGGS. I am afraid that the money that is now going 100 percent into poverty areas, if we got exactly that same amount of money in general aid, that it would not all go into poverty areas.

Mrs. GREEN. That isn't answering my question.

Mr. BRIGGS. Well, the answer is no, it would not all.

Mrs. GREEN. Would it be equally well spent?

Mr. BRIGGS. No, it would not be.

Mrs. GREEN. That was my question.

Mr. BRIGGS. But it isn't an either/or thing. It would be spent on children, but it would not be spent on inner city children, to the same extent.

Mrs. GREEN. That was not what I asked you. I asked would it be equally well spent. I must conclude from what you are saying that Congress or the people in Washington have better judgment and a better idea about establishing priorities for education in Cleveland than the people of Cleveland.

Mr. BRIGGS. No, no. I don't think so.

Mrs. GREEN. That's the way your comment struck me, sir.

Mr. BRIGGS. I know it may sound that way. The point I am trying to make is if the national purpose was to attack poverty, and to attack the inner city problem, by giving us money that we could only use for that, we budgeted it only for that, but the problems of the city of Cleveland are so great that even the best judgment of the city of Cleveland and the board of education and the superintendent of the city of Cleveland would not have allowed us to have made the concentrated effort on the inner city that we have made.

Mrs. GREEN. Well, I will just have to enter a disclaimer. As a member of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, I have a deep and abiding conviction that the people of my city of Portland, Oreg., have a much better understanding of the educational problems of Portland, a much better understanding of how to solve those problems, and a much better grasp of the priorities for the city of Portland than my colleagues here on the committee, or my colleagues in the Congress, White House, or the HEW.