

Three, local control and direction of the program has not been weakened or compromised.

Mr. BELL. You are saying you don't believe there has been any control so far as you are concerned?

Dr. DAILARD. There has been control to the extent we have discussed here this afternoon, that these funds were of limited applicability. It was not general aid. It was specific aid. But we designed our own program and no one changed it.

Mr. BELL. Dr. Dailard, you, of course, are from my home State, California. I welcome you here. What you have said is true, in the Los Angeles area as well.

However, I have heard some complaints about the State making its guidelines beyond what the Federal guidelines were. Have you had any particular problems in this area?

Dr. DAILARD. Not with reference to title I. There were some of the State guidelines under the National Defense Education Act which seemed to us to go beyond both the national guidelines and intent of the Act in restricting the use of the funds.

This is particularly true in title V. So far as the SEA Act, we have no such complaint. I have not heard it in the State. So far as our district, the districts in our area, we feel no added restraints.

Mr. BELL. Dr. Briggs, would you like to comment on both those points?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes, I would essentially agree. However, I would not want to mislead you to think that there were no movements of discussion at our conferences about interpretations. But as far as willful takeover of local programs and the kind of fears that all of us have had from time to time, I think that we would feel more comfortable today in our relationship with the Federal Government than we have ever had before.

I could not in good conscience complain to this committee.

Mr. BELL. Have you felt that you have had adequate elbow room to move?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes.

Mr. BELL. Dr. Whittier?

Dr. WHITTIER. I think I can agree in general. I think the biggest problem we have is the amount of staff time that goes in getting Federal funds. We think sometimes this is a hard way to get the money.

There is a lot of staff time and effort that goes into meetings, discussions and preparation of forms and other things which are not always too productive of the time and energy spent.

Under our State, of course, the Federal part of it also entails considerable discussions at that level. So we have actually gone through the formality of State discussions, Federal discussions, Federal discussions with State people together on the same project.

By the time you get through you have spent a lot of staff time in discussing even though in the end it finally came out.

Dr. DAILARD. I registered the same complaint this morning that there is an excessive amount of detail. We are dealing with 21 sections of 11-X in our school district. It seemed to us that there could be a great deal of simplification, standardization, and coordination of both the statute and guidelines.