

should know and have certain knowledge and be authorized to begin to employ teachers in January.

We are involved in a recruitment program. We start school in September and immediately start looking for teachers for the next year. If we do not know by January and are not able to make wise and prudent use of this money, it is not as prudently spent as are those funds which are locally derived.

I don't like to use the word "complaint," but I suppose I will. There is the paperwork. We realize that local districts must be and should be accountable for Federal funds, and we acknowledge the right of the Congress to require meticulous accounting of disbursements and the manner in which disbursements are applied at the local level.

But let us work together somehow to simplify all reporting procedures so that the man-hours spent on reports and accounts will be kept to a minimum. It is becoming increasingly difficult for local school budgets to absorb the hidden administrative, clerical and accounting costs necessitated by many Federal assistance programs.

Might I say that the programs that are in the areas which need them most are handicapped by the nature of the proposals which are necessary in order to receive these funds. I am not speaking for White Plains, because we have developed a degree of sophisticated—of sophistication—in applying for funds, but the places that need them most must either put out of the blood and sweat and tears of the administrative staff a proposal which may not be as polished as would be desirable in order to receive these funds, or they must go outside and pay a professional plan designer to draw up these plans.

I do not believe that it is the purpose of this committee or of the Congress to require school districts to employ outside consultants to design plans in order that they be approved.

I would hope that they might be simplified and that there might be some kind of supervision which would go in and look at a program and see what is being done rather than what a beautiful writing says is being done in our communities.

We don't suffer from this because we have good programs and we have good writers. This is a good combination. But the places that need the program most desperately are not always thus able to provide the polished report and request which is sometimes needed.

Another program which has been most helpful is the work study program, the program for vocational assistance for youngsters on the job.

I shall not dwell upon that. I will conclude by saying that I personally feel, and I know that my colleagues who are here would agree, that the continuing interests of the Congress, which the Congress has taken, in Federal aid to education during these past several years is indeed one of the most reassuring developments of the post-World War II era, directly and as a catalyst to State and local endeavor, the assistance provided in legislation sponsored by this committee has enabled the schools of America to move forward.

We have far to go, as my colleagues have testified, and we must make haste, but with continued Federal, State, and local collaboration, you have no doubt, sir, we shall succeed.

Thank you.