

assuming that they did, to find out whether there would still be any loss. It can be done, in my judgment, under a ruling of the attorney general.

I don't want to take issue with my friend on the history of 815 and 874. I am just as anxious as you are to see that the States, the State of Kentucky especially, does not suffer any loss, especially in the Fort Knox area, by reason of this amendment. I don't know of any reason why we cannot remove the amendment. I think the committee will go along. But the basic purpose which I say you missed was to get the schools, was to get the Army and the Government in general out of the business of running the schools. That is what we have tried to do all through the years.

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Chairman, that is welcome news, that the U.S. Office of Education, would like to get out of the business of operating schools. I might say, sir, that that would be welcome news from other departments of Government, also, getting out of the business of being in business.

To answer your question, sir, I am told that the money that is allocated to these posts under title VI of Public Law 874 would adequately take care of the problem but as far as raising the money locally, on a local level, which I am sure would be desirable, I would like to point out, sir, that we get approximately \$45 million from 1 percent of our 3 percent retail sales tax and that could not be collected at the PX.

Chairman PERKINS. We well understand that. We have gone over that hundreds and hundreds of times.

Mr. WATKINS. Where would we get our money? May I direct a question to the Chair?

The department of education in Kentucky without Federal help in operating the schools would find it impossible.

Chairman PERKINS. No one in the impacted area legislation area has supported it more strongly than I have. I helped write the legislation. I think we protected the legislation when it was under all kinds of attacks throughout the years. We intend to do it this time. I don't think we have any argument here. I think you are trying to argue over nothing.

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Chairman, you feel that the Attorney General has authority to say—that is something I don't have anything to do with, or know anything about. If we knew what money is available to us I would know what kind of bill of goods I would have to sell to my colleagues in the house of representatives.

Chairman PERKINS. I am sure your particular area does not benefit very much from the impacted area legislation. The great impact has been around the Fort Knox area. I can appreciate the loss of revenue. This committee certainly, even though it is one district in the country, I don't think would stand for a tremendous burden on any one school district if our State laws did not conform. I think we can iron out this problem without any difficulty.

Mr. BURKHEAD. Mr. Chairman, may I make a brief statement?

Chairman PERKINS. Yes.

Mr. BURKHEAD. We are agreed with the principle that the Federal Government should not operate the schools but we do not want to be caught with the school system not having sufficient funds to operate when there is no source to get it from. That is our problem.