

Most of the questions which I had planned to ask were covered in your testimony. However, several additional pieces of information would greatly facilitate our deliberations and I wonder if you would please furnish your response for the record.

I. The coordination and integration of statistical series within the Federal Government:

1. In your view, is the machinery provided by the law adequate for the tasks of coordination?

2. What have been the major obstacles in the way of making series compatible—for example, such that productivity and prices could be analyzed accurately?

II. The coordination among users and producers of data:

1. How do the Office of Statistical Standards and the various agencies weigh the needs of users?

2. Do you feel that there is a need for an *index* concerning the availability of Federal data including a description?

3. When changes in definition are being considered, is there a formal hearing of the affected parties?

4. Have there been attempts to measure the burden to respondents in complying with requests for information? Is this burden equitably distributed?

III. The storage and retrieval of data:

1. Are there standards set down by the Office of Statistical Standards to insure that the micro data in various agencies are stored in machine readable form and can be utilized by researchers inside and outside of government, with due consideration for disclosure problems?

2. Are the statistical agencies making full use of modern technology in the processing and storing of data?

IV. The advisability of a "National Data Center" or "Statistical Servicing Center":

1. Can major progress in coordination and integration be made without a National Data Center?

2. Would a pilot project be advisable?

3. If so, what magnitude of investment would be required for a meaningful pilot project?

Thank you for these additional responses and for your very helpful contribution to these hearings.

Sincerely,

HERMAN E. TALMADGE.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, D.C., June 28, 1967.

HON. HERMAN E. TALMADGE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Economic Statistics, Joint Economic Committee,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR TALMADGE: Enclosed are my replies to the questions presented in your letter of June 15, 1967. I am very glad to submit this additional information for the record of the hearing.

Sincerely yours,

RAYMOND T. BOWMAN,
Assistant Director for Statistical Standards.

(Reprinted below is the reply of Raymond T. Bowman, Assistant Director for Statistical Standards, Bureau of the Budget, to questions presented in a letter from Senator Herman E. Talmadge, Chairman, Subcommittee on Economic Statistics, Joint Economic Committee.)

I am very glad to supplement my testimony before the Subcommittee on Economic Statistics for the record by answering the questions in your letter to me of June 15, 1967. The questions are repeated before each answer.

"I. The coordination and integration of statistical series within the Federal Government