

the family counseling and other services available in the cities and that they can work as a group toward solution of domestic problems?

Mr. JOHNSON. Yes.

Mr. MEEDS. Doesn't this account for the fact in large degree that where you have 15 percent of your people seeking legal services for divorce, that only 2 percent actually end up in divorce?

Mr. JOHNSON. That's absolutely correct, Congressman.

Mr. MEEDS. You are able to, in effect, offer to these people a much more elaborate and much more capable system of family counseling than the average independent lawyer to whom a client might, or from whom a client might, seek information about domestic problems?

Mr. JOHNSON. Which also points up the advantage of having the law offices, as is true in over 50 percent of the cases located in multi-service centers, where the family services and other kinds of services that would help the family are ready at hand.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Goodell.

Mr. GOODELL. Mr. Johnson, you had earmarked \$22 million for legal services program in the authorization bill last year. What are you recommending this year?

Mr. JOHNSON. For fiscal 1968?

Mr. GOODELL. Yes.

Mr. JOHNSON. I believe that we are listed at \$47 million.

Mr. GOODELL. Are you recommending that it be earmarked?

Mr. JOHNSON. No; we are not.

Mr. GOODELL. Is it your position that you feel the legal services program could stand on its own feet in competing for community action funds from the local community action board?

Mr. JOHNSON. I think it can. In many surveys run by community action agencies, the need for legal services has been one of these uppermost in the minds of the poor.

Mr. GOODELL. Do you know if this is the position of the American Bar Association?

Mr. JOHNSON. I do not know. I don't believe they have taken a position on the matter of earmarking; I do not know.

Mr. GOODELL. What percentage of your cases involve a suit against an agency of the Federal Government?

Mr. JOHNSON. I would have to give an estimate on that; roughly 7 percent of our cases are suits involving an administrative agency, either State, local, or Federal on the other side. Approximately half of those involve State and local welfare agencies—

Mr. GOODELL. Half of those?

Mr. JOHNSON. Half of the 7 percent involves State and local welfare agencies, so it would be less than 3.5 percent of our total. But I would imagine more in the neighborhood of 1 to 2 percent.

Mr. GOODELL. I think many of us who have great sympathy and understanding for the legal services program with reference to consumer problems, housing problems, and things of that nature, where the poor are being exploited, have some question in our mind about the propriety of providing counsel to sue agencies of the Federal Government.

If there is an injustice done in the administration of a Federal law, it seems to me there should be some kind of procedure administratively