

Let me ask you one other question for clarification, and then you may continue with your general statement. How many enrollees or work opportunities, as you call them, do you have in private profit-making enterprises?

Mr. HOWARD. Let me search for that and get it for you right away.

Mr. DENT. For the benefit of the committee, I want to say that we will run more or less on an informal basis, because I think at the particular moment the Secretary is giving us certain specific testimony. If you have a question you want to address, if you will address the Chair, I will see that you get an opportunity to ask it.

Mr. SCHEUER. Mr. Chairman.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Scheuer.

Mr. SCHEUER. Mr. Howard, you mentioned you don't want to get into multiple programs in the private sector and therefore you have not been approaching the private sector where you still have unfilled MDTA slots. Do I understand you correctly?

Mr. HOWARD. Perhaps I should clarify that, Congressman Scheuer. What I meant by "multiple" was that we didn't want to get into duplicative or overlapping. So, if a sponsor evinced interest in a private sector experience for his enrollee, what we insisted on first was that he explore immediately whether there were OJT slots available already in the community that should be utilized. If not, then whether his interest and the contacts he made were susceptible of development as an OJT agreement under MDTA, in which case that would be done. If those failed, then we would start with our own extension of authority.

The purpose was among other things to reduce the numbers of individuals knocking on doors of employers, so that there is not a constant stream of a dozen different agencies trying to develop the same kind of job. We want to avoid any duplication and therefore we work closely with the alternatives already present.

Mr. SCHEUER. I am very much impressed with what you have accomplished in your "Jobs Now" program. Isn't there a difference between approaching an employer for a modest number of OJT sponsored jobs and giving the employer the initiative for developing a program, as I understand they do? It seems to me that, while I agree wholeheartedly with what I know is your view and the view of the Secretary as expressed in his testimony, we should be reaching more and more into the private sector, giving the private business community more of the responsibility for reaching out in the developing, teaching and learning programs in which they are becoming pretty expert.

I see no particular problem in having a multiplicity of approaches. Maybe from a little competition and the stimulus of a heterogeneous approach we may develop deeper insight as to which is the best approach. The idea of having a multiplicity of approaches like New York and Chicago and other major urban centers does not shock me. I am not even more sure it will result in overlapping or duplication. It seems to me you could have multiplicity without overlapping or duplication.

I would hate to see the "Jobs Now" concept which you cited—where industry undertakes on their initiative major responsibilities for