

Mr. BOUTIN. Yes. We have a bill before the Congress right now. We have actually two bills. One on the Senate side before the Committee on Finance dealing largely with the small business investment company program and taxation relative to that program, and before the Banking and Currency Committee for amendments to our act, none of which apply to the EOL program.

On the House side one of the bills, the tax bill before Ways and Means, and the rest of the bill basic legislation, before Mr. Patman's Banking and Currency Committee.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Thank you very much.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman PERKINS. Thank you, Mr. Boutin. You have been very helpful to the committee. Your unequivocal statement, to sum up your testimony, is that none of these programs should be spun off at the present time because we would lose the power that now exists to zero in on the disadvantaged group in America. Am I correct?

Mr. DELLENBACK. If I may, I did not read the witness' testimony as saying that. He said the other side of it, that he is not prepared at this moment, since he has been away from OEO now for a period of time, to state whether or not any of these programs should be spun off.

Chairman PERKINS. You asked him when they could be spun off, if he could make a projection in the future. The way I summarized his testimony was entirely different.

Mr. DELLENBACK. As far as the witness' qualifications in this regard, Mr. Chairman, he has already indicated he has been away from OEO for some length of time.

Chairman PERKINS. That is correct. But he is qualified to answer the question I put to him. Go ahead and answer.

Mr. BOUTIN. To answer the question, and I try to be exactly on the same wavelength on the three questions that have been directed to me, one by Congressman Goodell, one by Congressman Dellenback and one by the chairman, I said that it is my view that to spinoff functions of OEO at this time would be a mistake. Perhaps in the time future, in answer to Congressman Dellenback's direct question on this, I cannot identify which and when. But sometime in the future perhaps some of these can be spunoff, and added the words "without detriment to the program," but I would not recommend it at this time.

Chairman PERKINS. Thank you very much, Mr. Boutin. You have been very helpful to the committee.

Without objection, a statement that Sargent Shriver made before the Select Committee on Small Business of the Senate on March 15, 1967, will be inserted in the record.

(The statement follows:)

STATEMENT BY HON. SARGENT SHRIVER, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, BEFORE THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS, U.S. SENATE, MARCH 15, 1967

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for inviting me to testify before your committee.

The relationship between small business and the poverty program is a subject that has occupied much of our attention since passage of the Economic Opportunity Act in August of 1964.

As you know, that Act put the Office of Economic Opportunity into small business loan programs in two areas.