

subsequent years of school, probably as far as the third grade, the kind of special remedial noncurricular services which seem to make such a difference in the Headstart program.

The program is viewed as being operated in conjunction with title I programs and with State and local funding so that by putting together three different sources of funding, plus such things as title XIX medicare support and other Federal support that may be available in a particular community, we are able to achieve a very high level of program, a very high level of quality.

Of the \$120 million which is proposed for the Followthrough program approximately \$100 million of that will be used directly for direct grants to communities, about \$12 million for grants to State education agencies to help them to improve their assistance to local communities, technical assistance and training programs for local communities, and about \$8 million for administration evaluation, and research costs.

We estimate that the funds available for the direct operating grants will involve about \$525 per pupil on the average and therefore that we will be able to reach about 190,000 pupils in total.

The procedures which have been developed for the Followthrough program involve an application by the local education agency with the active investment and cooperation of the community action agency.

This proposal will be received by the U.S. Office of Education. Comments from State education agencies will also be a part of the record and the grants will be made by the Office of Education directly to the local education agency.

The program is intended to provide services to children in private as well as public schools and a number of arrangements have been developed to see to it that the same kinds of services and same kinds of support are provided for children in private schools as those provided children in public schools.

We have begun this year and will announce very shortly the funding of a number of pilot programs. It is our expectation and hope that out of these approximately 30 pilot programs we will learn a good deal that will help us and help other communities to plan broader scale programs that will be possible next fall.

We have made a decision that the bulk of the funds which are in the request this year should be for programs that will be operated in the school year 1968-69, rather than 1967-68. We have done this in recognition of the problem which this committee has so clearly identified in its report on the complications of delayed fundings. It seems to us that it would be more appropriate and more useful to have a funding schedule which gave communities real time to recruit, plan, train, and organize their services.

While this means a year's loss in time in terms of reaching children who really should have this kind of program this fall, we think the overall result will be better. We hope the Congress will support our judgment that the sound use of funds and good programs will be improved by delaying the total implementation for a year.

The Followthrough program is being developed in very close cooperation between the Office of Education and the Office of Economic Opportunity. We have been in daily contact with one another in the development of guidelines for the pilot programs. The same kind of cooperation will occur as the program moves on into its fuller phases.