program underway. This is further evidenced by the State agency whose now regional director for the OEO, Mr. Walter Ricker, replaced Dr. Crook who is now in Washington in charge of VISTA. I have no particular suggestions as to how we might strengthen that organization's function.

Mr. STEIGER. Mr. Day.

Mr. DAY. We had a great deal of assistance from the State office initially in getting ourselves organized and in assistance in getting our first programs written. I believe that the State agency should, its proper role should be to give us technical assistance, advice, evaluation, and especially assistance in the location of resources and explanation of how these resources can be made available to the locality. I would very very strongly oppose priorities being distributed from a State office. I would also oppose having to get approval from a State office on projects. In other words, I do not want to have any more authority over us that we have to save for any particular project than we have now. It is a tough enough job to get all of this through OEO without having to duplicate that and put it all through the State office. That would be horrible.

Mr. STEIGER. Mr. Flanders.

Mr. FLANDERS. We had assistance from the State technical staff in our original funding. I felt that they were as ill informed as we were as to the procedures involved in our original funding. This may have been perhaps because of inexperience. I, on the contrary, feel that the Federal-State local partnership could and should play a vital role in this field. I think it is of vital concern to the State as well as to the local people that the areas are developed properly and fully and the funds are used to the best advantage.

Mr. STEIGER. Another feature of H.R. 10682 is the concept of a bonus over and above the funding made available for community action agencies and Headstart. It proposed that $100 million for both community action and Headstart be made available on a matching 50–50 basis. If a State wishes to expand its program by putting up some money the Federal Government will match it on a 50–50 basis in order to expand the money available.

We have all talked about the degree and importance of the involvement of all units of Government. My question is, Would you think that there is some value to the concept of attempting to involve the other units of Government in the actual funding operation through this kind of bonus feature?

Mr. FLANDERS. Yes: I do. I sincerely feel that the partnership has to be all the way down the line in order to give the ultimate benefit to the people. I think if you are cutting out every local unit of government, every State unit of government between the Federal and servicing which is done through a community action program you are cutting out the whole middle area which must accept some responsibility as well.

Mr. STEIGER. Mr. Day.

Mr. DAY. I would hope that as we go along on these programs and we prove them or disprove them and those that are proven would become accepted by the communities, that the communities and the States would take over. Maybe on a permanent plan of Federal assistance. The Federal Government is now moving more and more into educa-