

right and the left, if you want to use those terms, are more and more beginning to feel that the task and the size of government, the amount of money we are spending is simply beyond the capacity of handling here in Washington; it has got to be done at a local level; but if that is going to be done, we need to have the kind of government that can completely and effectively administer. Certainly, the national chamber is slightly interested in that and is backing it very much.

I think the CED report is characteristic of the very rapid business.

Mr. QUIE. In other words, we expect that the local businessmen and the chambers of commerce will be supporting modernization of State government and local government where in the past there has been a tendency for them to oppose the State constitutional conventions?

Mr. BURKHART. I think there has been a great tendency in the past that we are fearful something might come out of the constitution. They have some vague apprehensions that we are not very happy with the way things are but nobody can tell what we would get if we ever got together in a constitutional convention. I think that has been one side of it.

The other side I think, too, is that most States until we have had this recent reapportionment move have been largely dominated by rural areas so we have had a State government situation which was pretty incompatible with city problems. Under most State constitutions, the cities are creatures of the State, and our State would be a perfect example of that because the city of Indianapolis which has some very massive problems that we all recognize and which we have ideas how they should be solved and how to pay for them, but until recently we could not get the authority from the State legislature to do it.

So, I think these are all things that we are very conscious of the deficiencies. I am hopeful that without too much longer delay all of the country will see the movement. Of course, some States have already had constitutional conventions and I would look for many, many more to have them within the next few years.

Mr. QUIE. I thank you for your excellent testimony. I think it should be very helpful to us in developing this legislation.

I yield to my colleague from New York.

Mr. GOODELL. I want to thank you, also, Mr. Burkhart, not only for your excellent testimony but for the very high quality studies which the chamber has sponsored in this general area and particularly for the study on youth which has become a part of the record here today.

You mentioned earlier as a response to the chairman's question—I am sorry he stepped out for a moment—that the chamber of commerce is not recommending abolition of the Office of Economic Opportunity. It is my understanding, and I would like to hear some comments on it, that the chamber has no official position one way or the other on this particular point; is that correct?

Mr. BURKHART. Yes. I am glad you did bring this up because I think I might have improperly stated our position.

The only thing that we have really adopted a policy on is reflected in the testimony in these recommendations that we make. The things that we have not recommended we simply are without a position on at this time.