

Mr. BRIDWELL. None.

Mr. CRAMER. Right. Congress will have to act on an authorization to provide that at some later date if it is going to be provided; is that correct?

Mr. BRIDWELL. That is correct, sir.

Mr. CRAMER. The second question relating to money is, the administration sent up a request that both beauty and safety be paid out of a separate trust fund.

Mr. BRIDWELL. Yes, sir.

Mr. CRAMER. Earmarking for beauty and safety, 1 percentage point of the automobile excise tax which is now 7 percent of the sales price, but scheduled to drop to 2 percent March 31, 1968. Is that correct, sir?

Mr. BRIDWELL. That is correct.

Mr. CRAMER. Now, it is my view that in view of money problems otherwise, and in view of the basic policy questions, the Ways and Means Committee probably is not going to act favorably on that. They have not shown any inclination to even hold hearings as yet; is that not correct?

Mr. BRIDWELL. They have not commanded me to appear to present the case.

Mr. CRAMER. Do not hold your breath.

In any event, the money that is going to be available for safety and beauty will have to come out of the general fund?

Mr. BRIDWELL. Yes, sir; from existing tax revenues regardless of where they are placed, in which particular pot.

Mr. CRAMER. Right. Now, of course, that brings us into the basic general problem of: Where is the money coming from for any of these things, in view of the President's announced intention to ask for 10 percent minimum surtax charge. Secondly, the chairman of Ways and Means has stated that it looks like the deficit next year is going to be about \$29 billion unless we do increase taxes. I think the whole question of beautification, to bring it into focus, must be considered in view of all of our financial obligations, including the war in South Vietnam.

This of course is presenting a most serious problem, as it relates to safety which should have high priority.

Mr. BRIDWELL. There is no question about the high priority of safety, Mr. Cramer. I am sure the Congress in the course of enacting substantive legislation as well as appropriation bills, will have its overall judgment on priorities, and of course the administration exercises that same kind of establishment of priorities by the legislation and the budget requests it sends to the Congress.

Mr. CRAMER. Now, the department has already apportioned to the States, as I understand it, 75 percent of funds authorized for fiscal 1967 and 1968 under the safety program; right?

Mr. BRIDWELL. Yes, sir.

Mr. CRAMER. Under the apportionment authority which you just referred to, which the Appropriations Committee saw fit to attempt to repeal in effect—

Mr. BRIDWELL. It certainly has that effect, although there is no change in the statute.

Mr. CRAMER. Florida was apportioned \$1.4 million for 1967, \$2.1 million for 1968. I assume they are in the process of getting ready to spend that money. What happens to Florida? As a matter of fact,