

Provide an automatic Federal payment to the Corporation in an amount equal to donations received by local stations, perhaps distributed in part on a matching basis and in part on an equalizing basis. This alternative would provide an incentive for increasing the share of non-Federal funds available for public broadcasting, thus making the Federal contribution more efficient.

Under each of these arrangements for using general revenues, the executive branch and the Congress would evaluate the requirements of the Corporation and assess the degree of Federal interest each 3 or 5 years.

I should also like to note other activities within the Government that may have a bearing on any public broadcasting financing plan.

As you know, several months ago the Ford Foundation proposed a system of domestic communication satellites that would markedly alter the economics of commercial broadcasting. Under that proposal, some amount of revenues would be made available to improve the programming of public broadcasting. This proposal is currently under consideration by the FCC, which has not, at this date, reached any conclusions. The Senate Commerce Committee has also held hearings on this proposal.

In addition, last August 14, the President announced a Task Force on Communication Policy under the chairmanship of Under Secretary Eugene Rostow, which is examining a number of major questions in the broad field of telecommunications, including a review of use of domestic satellites. This task force is scheduled to report late in the summer.

While we are uncertain as to the scope of the recommendations of the task force, it would appear the report may have some bearing in connection with the examination of ways in which new technology may change the operating patterns and costs of broadcasting distribution.

It is plain that we have some difficult issues still to work out. In his education message last month, the President took the position, as I noted earlier, that the long-range financing problem should not be resolved without further study and consultation. I cannot predict a quick answer, but I can assure you that the Bureau of the Budget and the Treasury and Health, Education, and Welfare Departments will pursue the alternatives carefully and consult with the congressional committees as the thinking crystallizes and work closely with the new Board of the Corporation.

Mr. Coston, of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and Mr. Brennan of the Treasury Department, may wish to add to what I have said.

Mr. MACDONALD. We would be happy to hear them, but before we do, I would like to have your thinking, as it comes up twice in your testimony—and my questions are friendly, not unfriendly—where you indicated that the Departments would consult with congressional committees.

I would like to know what congressional committee, except this one to authorize the bill, and the Appropriations Committee, would have anything to do with this bill.

Mr. CAREY. I think, Mr. Chairman, you have identified the right committees. The only other possibility that occurs to me is that if the