

because of the difference in the way the statistics are put together by different agencies and different industries.

It is literally impossible to find out, without a mammoth amount of work, what you already have available.

I think in this age of thriving technology we sometimes tend to assume that because we have computers we can take all of the books and stacks of figures and run them through a computer in order to get all of the answers. However, the computers cannot give all of the answers, believe me.

Now these are our concerns. First, we are trying to exercise a responsible stewardship of the taxpayer's money which is made available to the Department of Transportation in all of its activities.

Second, we feel that in order to do a job on the insurance industry, a study—

Mr. KEITH. You mean a job for the insurance industry.

Secretary BOYD. Well, I was not speaking in the vernacular, but we are trying to do a job for the American public.

We want to do one which is consonant with the quality of what we think we are doing in other areas. We do not want to be miserly and then find out in the end that we will be making assumptions which we cannot support and that we need additional information.

I think this would be a great disservice to everybody involved.

Mr. KEITH. I think the chairman, when he referred to your recommendations for an open-ended authorization, was very realistic. We have had previous experiences, as you know from your years with the Government, with agencies which have come in for additional funds after they tried to stay within their budget. If they made a good case, the funds were there.

Secretary BOYD. Let me say, sir, that we are attempting to give the committee our best judgment. We will follow whatever the Congress does cooperatively and productively.

Mr. KEITH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MOSS. Thank you.

Mr. MURPHY.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Secretary, will any of your advisory groups, any of those members receive compensation?

Secretary BOYD. Let me throw that to Mr. Mackey.

Mr. MACKEY. I think that we would expect to have the authorization to pay some of the advisory groups. We are not entirely sure at this point exactly what the nature of all the advisory groups would be.

Certainly, the broad industry representation, the highest level, State commissioners, presidents of companies, people of this sort forming an advisory group, normally would not expect compensation as consultants.

We also would have to have some advisory groups made up of professional, academic types, people who are really professional consultants.

I think in order to do the job right we need both. Even when you do not pay compensation you normally pay travel expenses for the people in the advisory groups. With a large representative advisory group that meets fairly often so that it can be useful, even the travel expenses can add up quickly.

Mr. MURPHY. Thank you. I have no other questions.