

Mr. MEEDS. Well, do you think that the Indian people on reservations should be made that much different that they can work out situations locally such as that where religious freedom is threatened?

Mr. ACOYA. Well, I think the State's position is this, that the local people can work out their own problems, that the State really has no jurisdiction. So, I believe that the feeling is that the Indians have their freedoms, have their own government, they have a right to work out their own problems.

Mr. MEEDS. You said earlier that you thought the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution presently apply to these Indians. Do you call that the application of the first 10 amendments, specifically the first amendment to the U.S. Constitution, where a person can be jailed and a Catholic priest can be prevented from conducting religious services? Is that application of the first 10 amendments?

Mr. ACOYA. Well, here again, sir, if I may, we believe that the Pueblo Indians within their own tribal governments in application of the——

Mr. MEEDS. You are not answering my question, sir. I am asking you simply, Do you believe that is an application of the first amendment to the U.S. Constitution where a Catholic priest can be prohibited from conducting services? Is that religious freedom?

Mr. ACOYA. I do not believe so.

Mr. MEEDS. I do not believe so, either.

Mr. ACOYA. If I may, sir——

Mr. MEEDS. So the only conclusion we can arrive at from that is that at least in that instance they did not have religious freedom, is that not correct?

Mr. ACOYA. I would say not.

Mr. MEEDS. And if this bill would provide religious freedom for these people, would not you think it would be a step in the right direction?

Mr. ACOYA. I believe so.

Mr. MEEDS. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you speaking now for the Governor or for yourself in answer to the last question?

Mr. MEEDS. He said he was speaking for the Governor in all respects, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. I am asking the witness, Are you speaking for the Governor or for yourself in answer to that last question?

Mr. ACOYA. I speak for myself, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You speak for yourself on the last question. I thought so.

Mr. MEEDS. Mr. Chairman——

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair is not going to stand to have any member of the committee start an argument at this place. If you want to ask the gentleman another question, the Chair will allow it. We are not going to argue here in the committee.

Mr. MEEDS. Mr. Chairman, I asked initially, my first question was whether he spoke for the Governor in all respects and he said he was.

The CHAIRMAN. And the gentleman got carried away with his own questioning and he went beyond the question that the witness had in mind. Now, if the gentleman wants to ask him again as the Chair asked