

What is the comparable cost to the Federal Government of 100,000 student loans made under the NDEA and 100,000 student loans made under the guaranteed student loan program?

H.R. 15067 also raises new questions. Is it desirable to embark on new programs in a year in which the budget requests for title I of the Facilities Act represents approximately 10 percent of the authorization.

H.R. 15067 also, as I see it, poses many issues, some of which are related to matters discussed in the study of the U.S. Office of Education, and some of which are related to questions of pressing national concern. Of great concern to me is the impact of the present draft policy on graduate and undergraduate education.

Before we begin today, I should like to mention just one issue in greater detail and I think, Mr. Commissioner, you will agree with me it is the most important issue. I refer to the timing of this legislation. As I have mentioned, H.R. 15067 proposes the extension of 16 programs beyond their expiration date of June 30 of this year. Stated differently, there is no authorization for these programs beyond June 30 of this year and, thus, no authorization for the Appropriations Committee to recommend funds for fiscal year 1969.

I doubt if there is a person in this room who is not aware of the severe problems brought about by late authorizations and late funding. To avoid the problems detailed in the subcommittee report on the study at the U.S. Office and with the cooperation of that Office I think it is imperative that we in the Congress move as rapidly as we can on H.R. 15067. This is why I felt it absolutely essential we begin hearings today just 1 day after the introduction of H.R. 15067.

I would also ask for consideration on the part of my colleagues and consideration on the part of the Office of Education to the possibility or advisability of pulling out certain parts of the bill which would be noncontroversial in nature and moving those along faster in both the House and Senate if it seems that some of the other parts might take a little longer.

May I take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to my colleagues on both sides for their understanding and cooperation as far as the speed with which we need to get to this legislation, and certainly great thanks to Commissioner Howe and his colleagues. May I also say thank you on behalf of the subcommittee for your cooperation and willingness to appear today just hours after the introduction of the legislation.

The subcommittee today and tomorrow will hear from the administration witnesses and there is a possibility if there is not a full committee meeting we will meet on Thursday morning to hear other administration people from Treasury and perhaps from the Civil Service Commission.

The subcommittee hearings will resume on February 19, immediately after the Lincoln Day recess, at which time administration witnesses on the Inter-Governmental Manpower Act will appear before us.

In the middle of that week we will turn our attention to the higher education amendments and the opportunity will be given for public witnesses. We will continue our hearings that week, during the week of February 26, and, if necessary, during the week of March 4.