

legislation, of course, provides for advance funding. Related to this matter is the question of how many years the program should be extended.

How do you feel on this point and should we authorize programs for a long period of time or make them permanent?

Mr. STRICKLER. I am a man of compromise. I hesitate to make commitments for too long a period of time in almost every area because we live in a world of such rapid change. Again, I come to a point of compromise. We have had too short a period of time in viewing the future of this kind of assistance.

Chairman PERKINS. What tenure would you suggest?

Mr. STRICKLER. I talk in terms of a 5-year program.

Chairman PERKINS. Again, Dr. Strickler, let me compliment you for being an outstanding witness. You have been very helpful to this committee.

Mr. QUIE, do you have any questions?

Mr. QUIE. I have only one on the guaranteed loan program, with reference to the breaking point; that is, the benchmark of \$15,000 adjusted gross income.

Just how does that fit into the observation that you have made outlining the need for a subsidized loan?

Mr. STRICKLER. I am sorry, I am not qualified to answer that question. I do not quite understand. Would you mind repeating it again?

Mr. QUIE. You know that the guaranteed subsidized loan program is for a person whose family has less than \$15,000 of adjusted gross income?

Mr. STRICKLER. Yes.

Mr. QUIE. Do you think that hard and fast benchmark of \$15,000 adjusted gross income in your area is an adequate figure? Do you think there ought to be more flexibility?

Mr. STRICKLER. I believe that if a benchmark is set, a benchmark that is a reasonable benchmark, a benchmark is helpful to have at this figure. I would prefer at the present time to continue to work with the financial aid officer.

Mr. QUIE. In other words, you would prefer to have the financial aid officer make that decision?

Mr. STRICKLER. Yes. I am in favor of this. My reason for taking this position is that I have noticed you could have and do have wide ranges of opinion among your financial aid officers.

I think in order perhaps to have the program operate in a steady manner, in a manner of fairness to the greatest number of institutions, some kind of benchmark is extremely helpful.

Mr. QUIE. How about the educational opportunity grants? Do you have statistics on the number that utilize them?

Mr. STRICKLER. No; I do not. It has been extremely useful to us. By the way, my financial aid officers tell me that it is a joy working with the procedure. The procedure is quite adequate.

Mr. QUIE. We prohibit the use of work-study money in matching EOG. I am confident, though that this committee will change that so that you can count on work-study money.

Do you think, in all cases, you will be able to find additional money to match the EOG money, if we still continued the limitation that it