

offices whose function is to assist veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits. Veterans who feel they need further assistance may enlist, without charge, the aid of representatives of service organizations who by statute (section 3402 of title 38, United States Code) may be recognized for the purpose of presentation and prosecution of claims and to whom the Veterans Administration records are made available. In some cases such representatives are furnished office space within the field station by the Veterans Administration, thus being immediately available to any claimant who feels the need for their services.

In view of the foregoing, we are unable to foresee the accrual of any additional advantage to the claimant, insofar as veterans benefits programs administered by the Veterans Administration are concerned, which would result from the enactment of the subject bill. Therefore, we cannot recommend favorable consideration of S. 1195, 90th Congress, by your Committee.

We are advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there is no objection from the standpoint of the Administration's program to the presentation of this report to your Committee.

Sincerely,

W. J. DRIVER, *Administrator.*

[Excerpt From Committee Print entitled "Ombudsmen—1967 Compilation of State Proposals"]

LETTER TO ALL STATE LEGISLATURES REQUESTING MATERIALS ON OMBUDSMAN PROPOSALS

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE,
May 12, 1967.

DEAR SIR: The Senate Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure, of which I am chairman, is continuing its research into the office and function of ombudsman. Recently, the State of Hawaii became the first State in the Nation to officially create the office. According to reports received in Washington, several other States are actively considering creation of a similar office.

In order that the subcommittee can be better informed on the current status of these ombudsman proposals, and so that the subcommittee can effectively assist those State and local governments which have requested such assistance, we would appreciate receiving the following information from you:

1. Have any bills to create an ombudsman (or similar office ever been introduced in your State legislature? Please send duplicate copies, if possible.
2. Have hearings or other committee meetings been held on these measures?
3. Has any legislative action (positive or negative been taken on any ombudsman proposal in your State?

If you have any additional information, reports, or statements, we would certainly appreciate receiving them. The Senate Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure has issued a number of documents on this subject and will be happy to send them to you upon your request.

If we can be of any assistance to you, please feel free to call on us.

Kind regards.

Sincerely,

EDWARD V. LONG, *Chairman.*