nformation is desired by a particular government, it should be provided, but it should await his request.

Senator MUSKIE. Will he know what to ask for before he knows what is available?

Mr. COLMAN. Of course, that always is a difficult question. The intent of this section, with its proviso, "on request," is that basic information would be provided to all Governors as a matter of course. But extensions beyond that, going beneath the general and moving to the particular, would need to come at the initiative of the Governor.

Senator MUSKIE. In other words, he will be advised as to what programs are being used?

Mr. COLMAN. Yes.

Senator MUSKIE. Then it is up to him to decide how much detail he wants?

Mr. COLMAN. Yes, sir.

Senator MUSKIE. With respect to amendment 748, which you discuss I think, on page 46, I understand that the Comptroller General would have some responsibility for this and he is almost totally negative with respect to this proposal.

Mr. COLMAN. I missed the first part of your comment.

Senator MUSKIE. I understand that the Comptroller General is completely negative.

Mr. COLMAN. This is news to me. He may very well be negative, but I think that Mr. Staats understands pretty fully the basic rationale of the proposal. He and I have discussed it. He has had copies of it for a long time.

It may very well be that his staff and he, in finally deciding whether to support or oppose this provision, may very well have decided that the balance is in the negative rather than the positive.

Senator MUSKIE. For instance, he says:

> Sections 1003 (b) and (c) would lay upon the Comptroller General functions of management involving financial relationships between executive agencies and states and political subdivisions which are the primary responsibility of the executive agencies in the administration of their programs. The assumption of these functions by the Comptroller General would, in addition, tend to negate the independence and detachment from operational responsibility which the Congress intended for him in a review and evaluation of agency performance. Thus in our view, the concept of subsections (b) and (c) is inconsistent with the statutory role of the General Accounting Office.

Mr. COLMAN. That sounds, Mr. Chairman, as though he were commenting on some provisions dealing with the periodic review of grant-in-aid programs. Because what you have just read has been the type of objection that has often been made by the Bureau of the Budget and by Federal agencies to the role of the Comptroller General with regard to the review of the grants.

Now, there may be a difficulty, Mr. Chairman, with regard to the language here in amendment No. 748, but it is certainly not the intent of the Commission's recommendation to involve the Comptroller General in management responsibilities. The Comptroller General now conducts audits on a spot basis of grant-in-aid programs, and he and his staff are very much concerned about the audit of Federal expenditures in these programs.

The Comptroller General's staff is already in the State governments looking at their books on a spot basis. This proposal of the Commis-