

and for which the Federal Government is providing a substantial portion of the financing. I urge prompt Committee approval of this measure and surely hope that Congress will enact the measure this year.

Senator MUSKIE. Thank you very much, Senator Moss. I appreciate this statement.

There are many, many aspects of this bill which you and I could get into, but which I think time prevents.

You did not mention the relocation provisions of this bill.

Senator Moss. No, I have not covered that in my testimony. I just really made a brief and cursory statement on the general objectives of this bill. I wanted to stress the great proliferation that there had been in these programs.

Now, I suppose every State now has to have a department for just trying to keep track of all the Federal programs and keep them sorted out, because the State officials and particularly the municipalities, and when you get down into the smaller-sized ones, are utterly bewildered. They have no way of knowing where to turn, there are so many different programs. They all need to be coordinated.

Senator MUSKIE. On this broad area of grants consolidation, of reduction of administrative red tape, block grants and tax sharing—I think it finds all of us arguing against each other and inconsistent with our own points of view from time to time. So it is no wonder that local officials and State officials are at least as confused as some of the rest of us.

For example, this legislation contains a provision to which you have referred, giving the President authority to consolidate individual categorical grants. Now, I know that this is going to be opposed by some in the Congress who see this as an unwise delegation of Congressional authority to the Executive. Yet some who find themselves in the ranks of the opposition are also strong supporters of tax-sharing, which would delegate Congressional authority over program objectives not to the President but to State Governments. So we have this problem of somehow evolving a more flexible and sensible channeling of Federal resources to the States without getting tangled up in our own philosophical problems.

Are you troubled by the fact—I gather you are not, so I put the question anticipating a negative answer—that consolidated grants would delegate authority to the President over these programs? In a sense this is legislative authority.

Senator Moss. No, I am not, philosophically or otherwise troubled by that. It seems to me that the President being the Executive arm of the Government does have greater ability to move forward and take a positive action, whereas the Congress, being the legislative body, is not an action body so much as one to consider and either approve or disapprove. So I think the provision that is here in the bill of permitting the President to order the consolidation and giving the Congress a period of time within which to disapprove if we think it is unwise is a reasonable provision and this has worked well on the Reorganization Act that the President has used, well, ever since 1949, has used quite well.

I do not worry about that delegation, no.