

Q. Governor, last Thursday you painted a rather bleak financial picture of the State. You said that there is a possibility that some of the programs may have to be curtailed if the financial picture stays the same way. The day after that, the State came out with a statement which said the financial position of the State looked pretty rosy. Have you talked with the Comptroller, have you since changed your mind, or do you still feel the same way?

A. No, I haven't talked with him, but I think it was obvious from the statements from the Comptroller's own office that he did not give me the benefit of the latest information in his possession. I was operating with information that was some \$11 million inaccurate. I think the whole question of revenue estimates is, at this stage of the game, one that's not dependable. The Comptroller often boasts of his ability to make close revenue estimates, but we found that looking at his figures that had it not been for the reversions, in other words the unused portions of departmental budgets that seemed to come in and rescue him, the surplus that he predicted based on the building of revenues would have been quite a bit inaccurate. I don't criticize him for this. I say that, in a budget the size of ours, it's impossible to be totally accurate with revenue estimating. But I do criticize him, and I criticize him very strongly, for not making available to me, after my specific request, the latest up-to-date information that was on his desk at the time, which he did not let me have. I think this is a reprehensible action on his part.

Q. Is this one of the reasons why you feel so strongly that a Governor should be able to choose his own Attorney General and Comptroller?

A. Well it certainly is a position that I take, that these offices should be appointive under the Governor's discretion. But I want to emphasize that I have had no trouble of this type whatsoever from the Attorney General's office and have found them to be most cooperative, leaning over backwards to make certain that I had the best information that they could produce.

Q. Governor, would you speculate on Mr. Goldstein's motives?

A. No, I wouldn't care to do that. I just haven't any way to know what his motives were. But I do think that it was an unfortunate occurrence that certainly took away some of the confidence that I would like to have in the Comptroller's office.

Q. Governor, do you believe that the Comptroller's office should use and limit itself to the formal and official estimates that the Board of