

1 the operation of schools those State moneys which are
2 permitted by law.

3 Fortunately, during my twenty-two years in the
4 State Department of Education, we have not had the prob-
5 lem of an attempt to divert those funds. There has been
6 more criticism in the legislature about the mandated
7 sections which they cannot reduce. As you will recall,
8 the budget estimates which are prepared by the State
9 Superintendent of Schools may not be even reduced by the
10 Governor. He receives them and passes them onto the
11 legislature.

12 I think this is a good section because the
13 counties must pay certain minimum salaries for a desig-
14 nated number of teachers, which the law requires or per-
15 mits them to employ, under a more recent law, and to
16 support transportation. These are things which the
17 law sets forth as the minimum program of education and,
18 if we have a minimum program of education, the State
19 should support it and not permit the legislature to
20 reduce this amount which would place the local political
21 subdivision then in a position of not being able to pay