

these other bills for the reason that it is limited to filling the important gap now present in the laws covering voting rights. Private citizens have long had civil remedies against persons acting under color of law in voting cases. Hence we see no pressing need for statutory amendments directed to private litigation. As to amendment of the Criminal sections, our experience has been that criminal sanctions are at best of limited value in civil rights voting cases. It is our recommendation that at least until we have had experience to determine whether we can fully vindicate the federal interest in voting cases by use of civil remedies that the criminal statutes be left as they are.

2. Commission on Civil Rights.

The proposal for a Commission contained in Title II of the bill in Subcommittee print is substantially similar to that supported by the Administration with the exception that it adds to the Commission's duties the investigation of claims of discrimination based on sex. For the reasons given earlier I would recommend the deletion of that provision.

3. Authorization of Civil Rights Division.

With reference to the appointment of a new assistant attorney general we believe that the language contained in the bill in Subcommittee print, and in S. 428 and S. 502, is unnecessarily detailed. The Attorney General, as the chief officer of the Department of Justice, has the responsibility for the administration of the Department and the enforcement of the federal laws. He should be given the discretion to assign responsibilities within his Department in the manner which from time to time seems most useful. Similarly, the provisions with respect to the Federal Bureau of Investigation seem needless. We have the fullest cooperation from the Bureau in Civil Rights Cases and to the extent that new personnel is needed to keep up with increased civil rights activity I am certain that Congress will approve appropriate budget requests

