

STATEMENT OF HON. WILLIAM F. WALSH, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SYRACUSE, N.Y.

Mayor WALSH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have two statements, one that I submitted in advance to the committee. It runs some 20 or so pages. I have prepared a synopsis of that statement in the interest of time. Perhaps I should read the synopsis. It contains the same material. If you are interested in following along as I read the synopsis, there are additional copies of it here if the staff would like to pass them out.

Mr. LANDRUM. Very well.

Mayor WALSH. It is about a third shorter than the original. I think we can save time. It covers the pertinent points.

Mr. LANDRUM. Without objection the entire statement will be inserted in addition to the synopsis.

(Mayor Walsh's statement follows:)

STATEMENT BY HON. WILLIAM F. WALSH, MAYOR, CITY OF SYRACUSE, N.Y.

I am Mayor William Walsh of the city of Syracuse in New York State. I have accepted an invitation from Congressman Adam Clayton Powell to discuss with you my views on H.R. 10440—the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

INTRODUCTION

Initially, may I emphasize that my education, experience, and background gives me some authority to speak from knowledge and conviction about the problems of poverty. I have a degree in sociology from St. Bonaventure College, I studied at the School of Social Work at Catholic University here in Washington, and I have a master's degree in social work from the University of Buffalo. I have also completed the course requirements for a Ph. D. in sociology at the Maxwell School of Citizenship at Syracuse University. Additionally, I have had many years of working experience with social problems as an executive of the State commission against discrimination, now the Commission on Human Rights. I was elected commissioner of welfare of Syracuse and Onondaga County, and later elected mayor of the city of Syracuse.

LOCAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Syracuse is not a pocket of poverty.

Syracuse is not a depressed area.

As mayor, I am proud to say that our present economic performance, and our indicators of future economic potential, present a pattern of economic growth which seems to assure Syracuse of continuing prosperity.

Our area employment is at an alltime high; our unemployment percentage rates are lower than either the New York State or National averages; more than 3,000 new jobs have been created each year for the past 5 years, and indications are that this growth rate will continue and expand during the next 5 years; Syracuse leads every other metropolitan area in New York State, on a per capita basis, in both the number of students graduating from high school and the number of students entering institutions of higher learning.

This record did not just happen—it is the result of hard work and fiscal responsibility by the people of Syracuse, with financial assistance in some cases, from both the State and Federal Governments.

During the last 5 years, local funds have built more than \$20 million in new public schools, and \$14 million more in school construction is planned during the next 5 years.

More than \$12 million in Federal funds has been spent in the same time period to provide over 700 units of new low-income public housing, including over 400 units for the elderly; and, an additional 350 units of public housing for the elderly, costing over \$6 million, is now in the design stage.

In the field of urban renewal, we have a 101-acre slum clearance project in the execution state; a 62-acre downtown renewal project in the survey and plan-