

this is really a program to make real and to make realized the promises that we have been making all this time to ourselves and to the citizens.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. Dr. Weaver, if you could answer this one by breaking it down into simple facts, what do we have here? What will this act do that urban renewal and public housing will not do?

Secretary WEAVER. Certain things. In the first place, for the first time—

Mr. BARRETT. Doctor, would you yield to me for just a minute?

Aren't we trying to prevent these rent gougers from preying on our poor people? I am not talking about the upright realtors, I am talking about rent gougers and chiselers. And we want to give these poor people an opportunity for decent housing—if I may give you one example that just came to me on Friday night, an old lady about 80 years old and probably older came to me and said that she pays \$15 a week for housing. She has no facilities in it. They have a lavatory down the hallway. It is a community lavatory. And she came to me and said that she would like to have the board of health come down there, because people were throwing their empty beer cans there. They are throwing their garbage in this lavatory, and she doesn't have a chance to use it.

These are the cases that I am sure you are pointing out that we want to correct. This old woman pays actually \$60 a month for a 9- by 12-foot room. And we are trying to give people like that, by this program, a decent, safe, and sanitary home.

I think this is the heart of it, to help these people living in such terrible conditions—this is what we are trying to correct.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. Mr. Secretary, if you will yield to me now, I want to say that I wholeheartedly agree with my chairman, because I have a similar case. Here is a lady who called me, 74 years old, with a husband who is 78 years old. They have a third-floor apartment. The husband's leg was amputated Monday of last week. He cannot walk. And they have to go across the hall to get to the sanitary facilities. She said, "Will you please get us into the housing-for-the-elderly project?" I have to say, "I am sorry, we are overcrowded, we don't have enough units."

And so I would answer this type of problem with more public housing for the elderly, and let's keep urban renewal going.

I will defer to the Secretary.

Secretary WEAVER. This is not going to take away from the programs that I have.

I think I can illustrate by asking you a question. What will this do that public housing can't do? What will this do that urban renewal can't do?

In the first place, as far as public housing is concerned, one of the great unsolved problems in public housing has been the fact that we have yet to learn how to handle the social problems that are involved in the area that we deal with in public housing. Originally we didn't have this. We had tenant selection. So we didn't have any problem families. We have problem families now. You cannot do this on a hit-and-miss basis. You have got to have a comprehensive approach. This is why we are taking in an area wide enough to make an impact. And we are going into that area to work with the people who are there. We are not only going to rehouse them in that area both temporarily