

revenues, and compare them with the serious public needs that exist now and which will mount in the future; it is very evident that a crash program is indicated to help the city of Atlanta. And we think that this program that this Committee has under consideration is one which would go far in helping solve the problem.

We would like to submit that in Georgia we have other cities that we have compared, and as part of the testimony that we are presenting, we have taken a sampling of cities in every congressional district in Georgia, and have attached it. Now, this was done very quickly. And it does not represent the entire picture. But in every case we have found that cities in Georgia, regardless of size, from 5,000 on up that we did check, have blighted areas. They have the problem of substandard housing. They have the problem of substandard services. And they have the problem of trying to find ways and means of raising the living standard and the economic opportunity level at the communities.

And I would like to make one or two observations, Mr. Chairman, before I close. And I am about to close. One is in relation to title II of the proposed act.

Now, I am not certain in my own mind that the creation of new cities or new communities is the answer to this problem. I would like to submit that before that particular part of this program is given consideration that we look very closely and very cautiously at the critical needs that exist in the already developed municipalities, with the idea of building these better, and to help them solve the problems that exist in the deficiencies areas before we go out and start building new cities.

Now, in Georgia we have got 400 cities. And I would like to submit that you, that we think we could answer this problem that this new city program would turn on if we could help build better medium-sized cities and small cities that are scattered all over the State of Georgia. Let's make those existing already be made functional. And if we do that, then I think it would reduce the need of consideration of these new cities.

I would like to submit, too, that as areas develop outside the municipality, the central city, if there is available land there is sufficient development capital available to develop those areas. I have never seen any serious problem in the development of areas outside the city limits if there was a public need, because there has always been capital available for that purpose. And I would like to suggest to the committee that you go very cautiously into that part of the program.

There are 18,000 municipalities in this country. And there are better than 2,000 counties, plus the multitude of metropolitan areas. And I would like to submit that if we start creating more political entities, political subdivisions, we might be compounding the problem rather than satisfying the problem. And we do think that there is some merit in the consideration of that.

And I would like to submit to you, Mr. Chairman, and gentlemen, that it seems to me, based on what Mr. Bingham has said in relation to these multitude of plans—I have brought along with me a manual on "Federal Aid for Municipalities" which I would like to file with the committee. And I would like to submit to you and the gentlemen of the committee that we are doing at the local area everything that we can to educate our people on how to use the existing programs.