

than 50,000 population as well as for cities of any size which are certified and under the Area Redevelopment Act.

In connection with the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, NAHRO proposes six priority amendments. These are all amendments which are designed to strengthen public housing and enable it to meet the difficult tests of an effective housing program for low-income families including such key factors as site location, construction and design quality, social needs and incentives for family advancement. While I will not go into detail, I would like to stress their urgency, particularly in view of the relationship of public housing to an effective demonstration cities program. Three of the amendments (3, 5, 6) would require no increase in Federal authorization or appropriation. The full detail on each amendment is contained in a supplement to my testimony which I request be filed for the record.

Mr. BARRETT. Without objection it is so ordered.

The proposed amendments are:

1. Amendments to permit modernization and updating of older low-rent housing developments.
2. Revision of the provision on the special subsidy for the elderly.
3. Amendment to the language of the Housing Act to encourage good as well as economical design.
4. Write-down of land for low-rent housing outside urban renewal areas.
5. Authorization for overincome tenants to remain in occupancy and pay economic rents.
6. Authorization for sale of portions of low-rent housing developments to nonprofit sponsors, under appropriate circumstances.

In connection with sections 221(d)(3)—moderate income housing—and section 202—direct loan program for the elderly—the nonprofit housing sponsors who are members of our association have indicated that a number of amendments would be desirable in making the provisions more uniform and assisting nonprofit sponsors to assume their growing roles as housing resources. While we do not have specific recommendations on amendments at this time, I am listing in my supplemental statement a number of important areas where such amendments should be considered. NAHRO recommends that nonprofit groups and the Federal administrative agencies jointly consider necessary amendments and submit them to the Congress.

Before concluding, I would like to call attention to a recommendation in our association's policy resolution for the enactment of legislation similar to H.R. 6431, introduced in the 88th Congress by Congressman Rains to facilitate renewal of central business districts. The improvement of the employment cultural and economic bases in our central cities must go hand in glove with renewal of residential neighborhoods and with the war on poverty. Together they constitute the balanced program that Secretary Weaver so eloquently described last week.

Mr. Chairman, we conclude our testimony on a note of high expectation. The spirit of all the legislation before us reflects a new cohesion of goals involving all of the major social and economic programs of the Nation. Coupled with this sense of mutual goals is the will to provide the financial means and operating methods to achieve coordinated action. We are headed for a new era in the field of community development; NAHRO has already pledged to do its full