

status of your particular community is, but most of the communities today are in trouble. They cannot keep up with building of schools. They cannot keep up with many things. A highway depot—a facility needed to maintain the streets and what have you. We've got problems. Without Federal funds these communities would have deteriorated completely. So I do not think we should always be critical of this. I appreciate the fact that much of your testimony is constructive. I am wondering if you did grasp the intent or the techniques that is intended.

Mr. WILLIAMSON. In our testimony we said, I think, that the problems are more fundamental. You touched on it. Local and State governments, many of them, are impoverished. They need money. This just nicks at the problem. There are many Members of Congress that are getting ready to address themselves to that problem of helping local and State governments. I think if it were not for the Vietnam war there would be considerable consideration given every one of the several plans knocking around on the Hill involving shared revenues. Things like that approach it fundamentally and that is the problem; this bill won't do it. It will do it to a very limited extent. But we certainly agree with you that many State and local governments are in a bad way, and maybe as they become urban oriented and urban dominated under the one-man, one-vote rule they might become more responsive to the needs of urban areas, and they might not, too.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. As far as incentive is concerned, how do you gentlemen feel we can provide that incentive? How do we give these people a vote in the communities? How do we inject them with the necessary incentive where it is nonexistent? Oftentimes I feel we find a group within the community who are just anti's. They do not have the courage because there is a low incentive to make that investment in order that in the years ahead we will see this community thrive and will survive. Do you have any suggestions on that?

Mr. EMLIN. I would like to comment, Mr. St Germain.

You have something else besides lack of initiative. You have in many cases sincere political philosophy that rejects some of these programs and approaches and I know specifically in my own township, after I was off the board of commissioners, there was a chance to avail ourselves of some Federal money in the improvement of local parks—a local park situation. The board unanimously rejected it and they said they did not want any Federal money and they would do it themselves, and they did.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. They did something about it, though. I am concerned about the communities where they reject the Federal funds and they do not do anything about it. They are the ones who are in trouble.

Mr. BARRETT. The time of the gentleman has expired. Mr. Reuss?

Mr. REUSS. I, too, want to commend you and your association for your stand on rent supplements and rent certificates. I think they are good programs and we need your support because it indicates just once again that your association is willing to evaluate matters as they unfold in the light of new facts.

I think you made a good point in your presentation when you point out, as you do on page 5, that you have one committee of the Congress, the Government Operations Committee, looking at the so-called