

does he have a rich experience in governmental service, he is also a professor of sociology at Wittenberg University in that same city.

Accompanying him this afternoon is the city manager of the city of Springfield, Mr. J. L. Caplinger. These gentlemen, Mr. Chairman, come from my State, and they have exhibited in their governmental offices and in their private undertakings a growing concern for this legislation on the Federal level to assist them to plan more comprehensively and demonstrate more effectively their ideas as to how America is going to improve the community life of its cities.

You know, we in Ohio are very proud that Springfield, Ohio, was the publishing capital of the United States. I think at one time it had that distinction.

There has been some urban decay in this city in southwest Ohio. There is a tremendous need for urban renewal and revitalization in the economy of the entire area.

This city, Mr. Chairman, is a city of approximately 85,000 people in the inner city with a metropolitan population of approximately 135,000 people. They have a very, very limited financial capacity to afford the high cost of renewal.

In representing the State of Ohio at large, I know of no city in my State that needs to be assisted by both State and Federal Governments than their city. I am proud to present at this time Mr. Hertz and Mayor Caplinger for comment concerning H.R. 12341.

Mr. Hertz.

STATEMENT OF KARL HERTZ, CITY COMMISSIONER OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

Mr. HERTZ. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Karl Hertz. First, I want to express my very deep appreciation for the opportunity to appear before this distinguished committee and my deep thanks to Mr. Sweeney for arranging the opportunity to testify on legislation which can have far-reaching significance for the future of my community and for many others like it.

Springfield is an old city. It is a part of the original frontier of the old Northwest Territory. Gen. George Rogers Clark campaigned through our valley. We have a park named in his honor.

We are an old industrial city. We were once national leaders in the production of farm machinery. We are still the home of a major plant of the International Harvester Corp. Our people, especially some of our old, established families have been and still are conservative. They are very hesitant about accepting Federal funding to solve their problems.

We once also were, as Congressman Sweeney has pointed out, the publishing center of the world—the home of Collier's family of magazines.

We must and we strongly desire to recapture our economic vitality and potential. Our leading citizens have organized just recently as a committee for community action now. They are ready and willing to accept Federal funding, they have told us this as the governing body of the city of Springfield, Ohio.

We have their support, we have the support of our county commission, we have the support of the press. We want to move. But we face a number of interrelated and deeply disturbing problems.