

DEMONSTRATION CITIES AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1966

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING OF THE
COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to recess, at 10 a.m., in room 2128, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. William A. Barrett (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Barrett, Mrs. Sullivan, Widnall, Mrs. Dwyer, and Harvey.

Mr. BARRETT. The committee will come to order.

Our first witness will be Dr. Harvey Renger, Hallettsville, Tex., representing the American Medical Association.

Doctor, I want to tell you that we are very much pleased to have you here this morning. Of course, we are desirous of making you feel as much at home as we possibly can—you and your associate, Mr. Harrison, and if you desire to complete your testimony you may do so and we may ask you one or two questions after you have completed your testimony. We will abide by whatever is suitable to you.

Dr. Renger. Thank you, sir.

Mr. BARRETT. You may start your testimony.

STATEMENT OF HARVEY Renger, M.D., REPRESENTING THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION; ACCOMPANIED BY BERNARD P. HARRISON, DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCI- ATION DEPARTMENT ON LEGISLATION

Dr. Renger. Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, I am Dr. Harvey Renger, a physician practicing in Hallettsville, Tex. I am appearing today on behalf of the American Medical Association, which I serve as a member of the AMA Council on Legislative Activities. With me is Mr. Bernard P. Harrison, director of the AMA Department of Legislation.

As we understand it, H.R. 9256 would amend the National Housing Act to provide mortgage insurance or direct loans to a "group practice unit or organization" for the construction of new structures, the acquisition of existing structures and the expansion, remodeling, and improvement of same, as well as the cost of equipping any such facilities.

The term "group practice unit or organization" is defined in section 1007(4). While this bill provides a wide latitude as to the groups for which mortgages may be insured or to which loans may be given, the bill establishes the priorities of such parties, and provides discretionary power to the Federal Housing Commissioner and the Housing and Home Finance Administrator to determine additional priorities as they may deem appropriate.