

administrator. He must be responsible only to the administrator if he is going to have authority to make decisions which often involve in these programs, millions of dollars. We also must have full confidence in the regional administrator, but should he be jointly named, that he would become a coordinator in name only and could not be given authority to make field decisions. We need in an instance such as in Jersey City one place to go. We at the moment report to the regional office in New York City for public housing—we go to Newark for FHA assistance, we go to Philadelphia for URA assistance. We need one place to go, and I assume the new department will give us a regional administrator who has full authority over all of these programs, and we could very well use a man in Jersey City should we enter into a more accelerated program than we now are able to do without the demonstration program act.

Mr. ST GERMAIN (presiding). Thank you, Mr. Fino.

Mr. Widnall?

Mr. WIDNALL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Mayor, we are certainly pleased you came down here to testify today. You certainly gave good testimony on behalf of Jersey City. So many of your former residents live in my district now.

Mr. WHELAN. They are converts.

Mr. WIDNALL. Mr. Mayor, we are aware of your problems and we want to help you just as soon as others, who have major concentrated problems in the larger cities. What do you feel is the need of your city in funds out of this type of program? Have you made any estimate that you feel would be necessary to accomplish the purposes that you have in mind?

Mr. WHELAN. No, I don't think we could intelligently make a judgment as to the number of dollars we need.

I think more than that what we have to have is acceptance of the idea. Once that is established through the legislation which has been proposed, the determination of the number of dollars would follow as the definition and size of the problem or the need is arrived at. I think right now what we must do is define the problem, and once we define the problem, how best then to attack it, and to make an estimate of the number of dollars that would be necessary. I don't think we could make that estimate at this time.

Mr. WIDNALL. What criteria do you think we ought to set in picking the demonstration cities? After all, there are well over 700 major cities in the United States. You are only talking about 60 or 70. It seems only 10 percent come in under this program. How do you think the original selection should be made? It is quite evident you have a plan in mind for Jersey City, but you have not formulated any dollar ideas as to what your own application would be for a demonstration grant. We are trying to work on this legislation. I think we are really appalled by the enormity of the problem. I think we had six mayors come in and give a total of \$10 billion that they thought could be spent in their cities. The bill we have here is \$2 billion and something that would be spent over a 6-year period. This would only scratch the surface. To be effective, it has to have something done fairly expeditiously and encourage the rest of the country to go into a large-scale effort. It would be very helpful if you would