credit system and it is still working. So we take more interest in credit as our people continue to move from the rural areas to the cities. Too, much so, we think.

Now, for the substantive statement for our organization, I defer to Mrs. Angevine who is our women's activities coordinator and works with various women's organizations in the States and in the regions.

Mrs. SULLIVAN. We will insert your prepared statement at this point and then we will be glad to hear Mrs. Angevine.

(The full statement of Mr. Ellis follows.)

STATEMENT OF CLYDE T. ELLIS, GENERAL MANAGER, NATIONAL RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

My name is Clyde T. Ellis, and I am and have been for 25 years General Manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, which has its headquarters in Washington, D.C.

NRECA is the national trade and service organization of 980 rural electric systems serving nearly 20 million consumers in 2,578 of the 3,072 counties in the continental United States and in 9 of the 19 election districts of Alaska.

With me is Mrs. Erma Angevine, Women's Activities Coordinator for NRECA, who has done much work in the area of consumer legislation in general and "truth-in-lending" measures in particular. Mrs. Angevine will detail NRECA's support of "truth-in-lending" legislation and our position in regard to the proposed Consumers Protection Act of 1967.

Much of NRECA's active interest in "truth-in-lending" and similar consumer legislation stems from the speech made by your distinguished Chairman, Rep. Leonor Sullivan, to 1200 rural electric women at the NRECA annual meeting held in Miami Beach in 1965. At that time, she urged them to become "kitchen politicians" in behalf of legislation to protect the interest of consumers. Many of them are doing just that, on a bipartisan basis.

The work of the rural electrics' "kitchen politicians" is evident in the consumer resolutions proposed that year and each subsequent year by the NRECA Women's Activities Standing Committee. These resolutions have been adopted by the NRECA membership without a dissenting vote.

At the 1967 NRECA annual meeting, delegates representing the rural electric systems unanimously approved a "truth-in-lending" resolution which reaffirms support for legislation that "helps consumers shop for the best buy in credit by requiring a clear statement of the cost of credit and the annual rate of interest." I would like to submit that resolution and the 1966 NRECA resolution on consumer protection for the hearing record.

Resolution adopted at 1967 NRECA annual meeting:

"TRUTH IN LENDING

"Whereas, widespread misrepresentation of interest rates, vaguely worded credit contracts, unscrupulous repossession methods, trick payment clauses, high pressure door-to-door selling tactics, unconscionably high rates for credit, and other unsavory credit practices work severe hardships on consumers: Now, therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That we reaffirm our support for legislation that helps consumers shop for the best buy in credit by requiring a clear statement of the cost of credit and the annual rate of interest."

Resolution adopted at 1966 NRECA annual meeting:

"CONSUMER PROTECTION

"Whereas, NRECA is an association of 979 consumer-owned and controlled electric systems, vitally interested in all matters affecting consumers; and

"Whereas, we recognize consumers have a responsibility in the economic life of this country to support with their patronage the honest and efficient producers and distributors who offier the best value for the lowest price: Now, therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That we support legislation that helps consumers fulfill their role in an intelligent and responsible manner by giving them access to clear, unam-