the investigator studied 164 suits and he found that even after the downpayment, the monthly payment, and the repossession, sale proceeds—when the car has been seized and sold—even after those proceeds, the average buyer still owed more than half of the original price of the car. (The document referred to may be found on p. 1142.)

So he had a big deficiency judgment against him. This is what they are suing on. They then have the garnishee to use against him. I don't know if you can get a garnishee through this year or not but the situation is there. I am documenting it as best I can.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Were all of these people delinquent in their payments at the time?

Mr. MARGOLIUS. Yes, sure. This is just a generalization and you will forgive me for that.

Mrs. SULLIVAN. Is this to be counted against your time, Mr. Williams, or that of Mr. Gonzalez? He has been recognized.

Mr. WILLIAMS. My question has been answered.

I am sorry.

Mr. GONZALEZ. I wanted to thank Mr. Margolius. My time has expired.

Mrs. SULLIVAN. I have received a statement from the National Federation of Settlements & Neighborhood Centers in New York which I think is an appropriate one for placing in the record at this point because it relates to problems cited by Mr. Margolius. It expresses the view that the proposed ban on garnishment would influence merchants to be more cautious in extending credit to families which cannot meet the terms without extreme suffering.

(The statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF SETTLEMENTS AND NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS, NEW YORK, N.Y.

I am Gladys Duppstadt, Secretary for Social Education and Action for the National Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers, 232 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10016. I wish to speak in favor of H.R. 11601, the proposed "Consumer Credit Protection Act."

The National Federation of Settlements has 246 member agencies, and services 16 more, operating 399 neighborhood centers in 94 cities, 30 states and the District of Columbia. Twenty-two metropolitan or regional federations of neighborhood centers are affiliates also. In addition, National Federation operates a National Training Center based in Chicago. The National Federation of Settlements works to improve neighborhood conditions favorable to family life and helps its member centers throughout the nation to serve their neighborhoods effectively through a wide range of direct and advisory centers. Most of our member centers are engaged in consumer programs, and have been over many years.

Our support of H.R. 11601 is based on a social policy reaffirmed at our business meeting in Chicago May 1966, as follows: The Federation will support consumer education activities and legislation for the consumer's protection, including appropriate representation of consumers in the federal, state and local governments, and more intensive investigation and study of consumer problems, especially installment buying and other forms of credit financing.

A widely read book, also used as the subject for a documentary film, "The Poor Pay More, Consumer Practices in Low-Income Families" by David Caplovitz was based on a joint study and program from three of our member houses, Henry Street Settlement, James Weldon Johnson, and Union Settlement. These particular settlements were located in New York City, but Mr. Caplovitz described buying habits practiced by many of our low-income neighbors and dilemmas they encounter from overuse of credit in the 93 cities we serve.

While all three Titles of the proposed legislation reflect problems we have encountered for many years, we believe that national laws are necessary to