

Congressman HALPERN. As an experienced collection attorney and representing this field of law practice today, do you feel that the full disclosure provision of HR 11601 is desirable?

Mr. Noz. Frankly, I have no study into that at all. Some may argue that some are too severe, some may not.

I am saying they are completely unrelated to wage garnishments and that Congress should forget this idea of including the wage garnishments in this bill, be they in favor or not in favor; Congress should deal with those interest questions on their own merits and decide on the merits they dictate.

I am not actually advocating the new revision. It is all beside the point. I am here to discuss wage garnishments, which are my field of speciality.

Congressman HALPERN. Did you not mention before that the disclosure provisions of this bill would protect the consumer?

Mr. Noz. I said that in response to your question, that you said how do we protect the consumer from what we call predatory merchants, and I, of course, could have taken a different tack and ask you to define a predatory merchant, but instead I suggested that the interest is to their advantage, and if the merchandise isn't the quality that is represented on its face or represented in the catalogue in which it is sold, then certainly there is advantage taken by the merchant. I said that in response to your question.

Congressman HALPERN. Other than the legal jurisdiction aspect of enacting a Federal law on garnishment similar to New York law, which you have mentioned in your testimony—You do like New York's law?

Mr. Noz. Yes. I think it contains all of these things, the limitation of 10 percent. It is a percentage rather than a fixed amount. Someone earning less than \$30 can get some credit. An exception would cause a legal problem, if we except \$50 a week, those earning \$50 a week or less get no credit. Those now earning \$100 a week get their credit reduced to \$50 a week, and they will be angry at Congress for limiting their credit standing.

The debtor has a chance to pay even installments. If there is no response after 20 days then only is it served on the employer. He can't be discharged by the employer.

The New York law seems to me to be a very, very practical and humane working collection tool.

I notice sitting in the audience there are a few more gentlemen specializing in my field, who have a few choice words to say.

Congressman HALPERN. That is all of the questions I have now.

I am sure that Congressman Bingham agrees that if there are any other thoughts you would like to convey to us, it will be appreciated if you submit it for the record.

Mr. Noz. There was a gentleman from the bank lawyers' conference here. He was supposed to be here, and I would propose to offer him a few minutes of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. I think at this point we are going to have to have statements in addition to what we have heard.

Other than two men who already asked to be heard, who were not scheduled, if each can be limited for five minutes we will be grateful.

Thank you very much, Mr. Noz.

Congressman HALPERN. Thank you, Mr. Noz.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Taub?

STATEMENT OF JACK TAUB

Mr. JACK TAUB. I want to thank the Committee for hearing me without a specific request beforehand.

I am a practicing attorney before the Courts in this State for seventeen years. I have practiced in practically every Court in this State.

I am also, gentlemen, a consumer. I am familiar with the legal proceedings under enforcement proceedings to enforce judgments other than garnishments.

I wish to state here now that I as an individual support the Senate bill for full disclosure. I think that this bill and any other bill that will afford protection under full disclosure is good and that we need it.

I feel and know that there is great abuse in collections under our credit system. However, this abuse is not one hundred percent, not fifty percent, it is probably under ten percent. There is abuse. However, these abuses must be in some way prevented.

No one can argue that point any differently.