

The Eagles have been more fortunate on the State level and we shall continue the fight until every State in these United States has such legislation on its books.

Were Federal legislation passed, those States not having this type legislation, would quickly follow suit.

This is humanitarian legislation. It is practical legislation. These people represent experience, skills, and above all, pride in their jobs. They want no handouts and no special privileges. They want the dignity of labor, to be a part of the work force until such an age as they are entitled to receive social security or retire on pension.

Thank you, gentlemen.

I am very sorry this was a hurried schedule and I don't have a copy of the "Jobs After Forty Program" that was passed in Illinois to bring along. I don't know whether Charlie has one or not but if you would like one, I am sure Charlie can get it and send it to you.

Again I would like to say thanks to you for hearing just a working man and letting him appear here.

Mr. HAWKINS. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Pucinski?

Mr. PUCINSKI. I want to congratulate the gentleman on the many hard years the Eagles have put in on their efforts. It is comforting to know there is such a study on this problem.

The Eagles have worked very hard to cure this American dilemma. I am familiar with the bill the gentleman sponsored in Illinois and I share his enthusiasm that the Governor has signed that bill into law.

I am glad that at the State level we are cognizant of the problems of these senior citizens and I think it is important to point out that this is where I think we miss the boat—I myself do this and I should not, we again talk of this problem in terms of senior citizens when it is not really senior citizens we are talking about.

We are talking about people reaching the age of 40 where as far as job opportunities are concerned a man passing the age of 40 is an old man in this country. That is a sad indictment of our whole economic system where the people can't find jobs at 40, 45, or 47. Many of them have young families and many of them have growing children and need employment.

I welcome your testimony before this committee and would like to take this opportunity of congratulating you and every single member of your organization for the work you have done. The Fraternal Order of Eagles has been in the forefront of this job.

When you speak of the Eagles you associate them in the forefront of workers seeking to solve the problem of work for older people. I want to congratulate you in your stubbornness in sticking to this problem.

Mr. McCawley. I want to thank you for your kind remarks and I can see you have studied the various programs the Fraternal Order of Eagles has.

Mr. HAWKINS. Mr. Dellenback?

Mr. DELLENBACK. I would just say, following the line of the gentleman from Illinois, I commend the Eagles. I think when you find organizations of this type making it their business to be deeply concerned about problems like this we have the real justification for this type of an organization and here we are talking about one particular organization, namely, the Eagles.