

Mr. FRIEDEL. Mr. Watson.

Mr. WATSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I think it is quite remarkable all these people have finally gotten together on this one particular bill. I have hastily glanced at some of these articles that you have put into the appendix of your statement. I agree with you that they are making a big pitch trying to get general business and do not restrict it to its primary purpose.

Referring to Mr. Staggers' bill, H.R. 6530, did I not understand someone earlier said Mr. Staggers' bill was too restrictive? It seems to me that it would give you, the common carrier, more protection than the Senate bill, S. 752.

Mr. PINKNEY. It would have, and we supported that approach to this problem initially, as did the railroads and other carrier interests. It became perfectly obvious that we had run into solid opposition from the farm community and the Department of Agriculture. So we tried to work out something that could at least give us some relief in the current situation. We believe this will be, as Mrs. Brown said, a step in the right direction—a long step in the right direction.

Mr. WATSON. Compromise, and let everybody live.

Mr. PINKNEY. Yes, sir. It also has the effect of permitting the Interstate Commerce Commission for the first time to obtain knowledge as to who is performing this nonmember transportation, because this bill does not apply until such time as one of these farm co-ops has notified the Commission that it intends to haul general freight. And then routinely the Commission may examine its books. That is also provided in the bill.

Mr. WATSON. Thank you.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Thank you very much, Mr. Pinkney.

Mr. PINKNEY. Thank you, gentlemen.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Our next witness is Mr. Harry Breithaupt, general solicitor for the Association of American Railroads.

STATEMENT OF HARRY BREITHAUPT, GENERAL SOLICITOR, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Mr. BREITHAUPT. Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, mindful of the chairman's admonition as to brevity, I will present my statement for the record.

I will say for the purpose of the oral record that the railroads join with the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Department of Agriculture and the regulated motor carriers in endorsing and supporting S. 752 in the form in which it was passed by the Senate, and urge your favorable consideration of that measure.

(Mr. Breithaupt's prepared statement follows:)

STATEMENT OF HARRY J. BREITHAUPT, JR., GENERAL SOLICITOR, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

My name is Harry J. Breithaupt, Jr. I am General Solicitor of the Association of American Railroads, with headquarters at the offices of the Association in Washington. I appear in behalf of the member lines of the Association of American Railroads, by authority of its Board of Directors, in support of S. 752 as passed by the Senate on June 4, 1968.

Section 203(b)(5) of the Act (which this bill would amend) exempts from economic regulation by the Interstate Commerce Commission—motor vehicles controlled and operated by a cooperative association as defined in the Agri-