

**STATEMENT OF THOMAS M. GOODFELLOW, PRESIDENT,
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS**

Mr. GOODFELLOW. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I would not want to leave here without thanking you for hearing us and telling you how pleased we are that we could work this out with the labor people under Mr. Leighty. Further than that, I do want to say that we had a real reason for wanting to do this, because we want our employees in the railroad industry to have the same benefits that all other people in this country do. So we were pleased to work this out because this brings them up so they get the benefits the same as the people who are under social security.

Mr. Hiltz, who comes from Chicago, who joined in this effort, could not be here this morning but I want to tell you that he sends his best and also wants to thank you.

That is all I have to say.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Goodfellow. As chairman of the committee and on behalf of the committee I want to welcome you and say thank you, and to say that we wish for you a highly successful and pleasant tenure of office and to say that we, as a committee, will work with both sides.

Are there other questions or statements?

Mr. SPRINGER. I want to say that this committee has gone through a lot of trials in the past between management and labor. We are hoping that we can avoid them. We think this is a good start toward that. I want to say we think it is in the public interest when management and labor can agree on their own problems rather than coming here and dumping them before this committee.

Mr. GOODFELLOW. We will try to use this as a good start.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Rogers?

Mr. ROGERS. I want to join with the chairman, too, in saying that we are pleased to see you here before this committee. As you have assumed the responsibilities of your office fairly recently, we are delighted to see you before the committee. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any further statements?

If not, thank you so much for coming and giving us the benefit of your views.

I have a statement from the National Railroad Pension Forum in which they state a position for this bill and endorse it wholeheartedly. I would like to place this in the record at this point.

(The statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PENSION FORUM, INC.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Robert B. Byrnes. I live at 1514 17th Street NW., Washington, D.C.

My position is Washington representative of the National Railroad Pension Forum, Inc., of Chicago, with members in every State and on all of the principal railroads.

I wish to state that the officers of the Forum support all provisions of your bill, H.R. 14563, and gratefully commend the chairman and members of the committee for taking up this helpful legislation so early in this session of the Congress.