

lem, adopted a model State harassing telephone call act which closely parallels the language of H.R. 611 and the other bills. A copy of this model act is appended to this statement. (See p. 25.)

Chairman Ben T. Wiggins of the NARUC Committee on Communications promptly transmitted a copy of the model act to each State regulatory commission requesting that it review the existing legislation of that State on this subject, and if found inadequate, to seek enactment of legislation of the nature reflected by the model act.

I now understand that the remaining 12 States have adopted legislation to outlaw abusive calling.

We hope that the success with which all 50 States have responded to this problem was due in part to the national campaign which was launched by this association.

In view of these considerations, we believe that the enactment of this type of legislation is an appropriate means for combating the making of obscene and harassing telephone calls in interstate or foreign commerce, and in addition would complement the comprehensive action which has been taken by the States in combating such calls in intrastate commerce.

In closing, I wish to invite the members of this committee to call upon me or the other members of the staff of the NARUC whenever you need information concerning State regulation.

Thank you for your attention.

Mr. KORNEGAY. Thank you very much, Mr. Rodgers.

Mr. Broyhill?

Mr. Ottinger?

Mr. Brotzman?

Mr. BROTZMAN. No questions.

Mr. KORNEGAY. Mr. Rooney?

Mr. ROONEY. No questions.

Mr. KORNEGAY. Mr. Rodgers, as I read very hastily the Model State Harassing Telephone Call Act, it is almost word for word the bills that we have under consideration. Is that correct?

Mr. RODGERS. Yes.

Mr. KORNEGAY. To your knowledge, have there been any convictions under the Model Act in the States?

Mr. RODGERS. Not to my knowledge. Thirty-eight States had specific bills dealing with this problem, and the remaining 12 States had broader bills, such as those prohibiting disturbances of the peace. In an effort to inspire those 12 States to enact legislation and inspire the remaining 38 to upgrade their legislation we sent this out. We have made no followup, but the 12 States have responded.

Mr. KORNEGAY. Did those 12 States enact statutes similar or identical with the Model Act?

Mr. RODGERS. We did not follow up by writing each State commission. If you would like, we would be happy to undertake a poll of the 50 States to see how many States adopted this act.

Mr. KORNEGAY. Do you know of any agency, public or private, that would have information as to the form of the statute in the several States?

Mr. RODGERS. Not unless the Bell System would. They tell me they do.