

But I still think that we have a duty here in this body to proceed in an orderly and proper legislative basis.

Any questions?

Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH. One question, Mr. MacGregor. You mentioned you strongly objected to a person because of the color of his skin not being able to rent or buy a house of his choice. In your congressional district, does that exist?

Mr. MACGREGOR. We have in the State of Minnesota, as a result of action by the 1967 legislature, an open housing provision that is thought to be as broad in scope and as helpful in enforcement to one claiming discrimination as any State law in the country. So the answer to your question is, in my State and in my district, we have had open housing legislation at least since I have been an adult and was aware of existing legislation. And in 1967 the Minnesota State Legislature broadened the then existing legislation.

Mr. SMITH. So in your district, Negroes can rent or buy any house they wish; you don't have any discrimination in your district?

Mr. MACGREGOR. We have some occasional complaints that the law is not being lived up to. The State commissioner of human rights in Minnesota—and he is a Cabinet officer in our Governor's Cabinet and holds the same status as the department of agriculture in Minnesota—tells me that under the State law in the last year we have had four actions, four claims in which his office took action. One of those was in my district. It happened to be in my home village. But the action was conciliated within a matter of weeks after the complaint was raised.

Mr. SMITH. How about in your district, as to the color of the skin, what is the makeup of your district?

Mr. MACGREGOR. It is very small. I think I have less than 3 percent nonwhite. We had a number of Japanese-Americans moving in after World War II, they settled in my home village; we have some Indians in my home village, American Indians, and a few Negroes, but very few.

Mr. SMITH. Have you heard from any of your real estate people as to whether they approve or object to this section on selling private homes?

Mr. MACGREGOR. The mail I received in the last 2 weeks from realtors who are constituents of mine and friends in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area object to the provision that would permit an individual to discriminate if he meets the conditions set forth in the Senate bill, doesn't advertise, doesn't use a realtor, and so forth.

Mr. SMITH. That is all. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Any other questions?

Mr. ANDERSON. They are objecting, of course, not really in their own interests then, are they, because they certainly are covered by the Minnesota statute that you described?

Mr. MACGREGOR. That is correct.

Mr. ANDERSON. They are speaking for the larger fraternity of realtors throughout the country who might be in jurisdictions where laws of that kind are not available.