

well, then we have a wonderful program that is not meeting, and can't meet, very many of its expectations.

This is not a \$5 million a year program. We might as well face facts about it. It is not that kind of program. It is the only program that I know of, of this nature, for the benefit of small business.

I would hate, myself, as a citizen, to see it cut out. The amounts of money that we speak of compared to similar efforts that we have made in other fields and which the members of this distinguished committee are familiar with, is chickenfeed.

If we are going to have a good program we are going to have to extend it and encourage these States who have gone all out on the theory that it was a permanent program and a growing program, and we are going to have to extend it and encourage them and give some more money.

That is as simple as it can be. If we can't afford it, Mr. Watkins, then we can abolish it.

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Chairman, with your permission I would like to yield to Mr. Springer.

Mr. MOSS. The Chair is very pleased to welcome the distinguished ranking minority member of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and to yield to him. He always makes a very worthwhile contribution.

Mr. SPRINGER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I did want to come here because I was one of the originators of this program.

Dean Everett of the University of Illinois was the first one that I know of in this program that I ever heard of.

We had an awful time, may I say to my distinguished colleague from Alabama, to sell this program. I never had such hard work in all my life. This was the hardest piece of legislation that I ever worked on to sell because it is hard to explain.

When you are talking about trying to help small industry improve anything it is pretty hard to do. When I watched them in Illinois try to do what they were doing there were a lot of people in the industry who doubted the value of the program.

I think we have made some inroads since the program was started in actually selling it on the ground floor there. It has not been easy, may I say.

I was interested in the program as it came over from the Senate. If you can get a 3-year extension you will be fortunate before we get through with this because there will be a lot of sentiment to limit it to 1 year.

I don't think there will be a chance of increasing the appropriations, to be honest with you. I think maybe it is needed but I don't believe there will be any chance this year.

This is the tightest thing I have ever seen around here. I have never seen anything as tight as it is around here now and with some justification because we have money troubles.

If you want to hear about them, come over tomorrow afternoon and you will hear 4 hours of it before we vote.

I will state to you that I will work as far as I am concerned, to try to get something out. I will have to wait to find out what my members think about this. There is still some doubt on my side and on the other side, also.