

ing fees, mortgage prepayment penalties, and similar expenses. We believe it would be appropriate to extend this coverage to federally assisted programs.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I want to state that the Department of Housing and Urban Development believes that the objectives of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act are most meritorious. Enactment of this legislation will make a positive contribution in the effort to coordinate Federal assistance with State and local programs and goals. I especially want to stress the importance of its early enactment.

Senator MUSKIE. Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary for your excellent statement.

With respect to the relocation title, last week, in testimony which we received and to which I have already referred this morning, a number of suggestions were made. I think it would be helpful to the committee if we can get the comments of your Department upon those suggestions. I will ask the staff to give the appropriate people an opportunity to review that testimony. I think we ought to be sympathetic and responsive to the recommendations.

Secretary WEAVER. Let me say, Mr. Chairman, that my own feeling, and I have attempted to express it not only in words but in deeds, since in most instances, it happens to be the poor and the disadvantaged that are the most subject to displacement and relocation, often for improvements which benefit other elements in the population, that this displacement should extract the minimum psychological and economic costs from the people who are inconvenienced and sometimes incapacitated to restore themselves to their former states. This is the philosophy that I have.

Senator MUSKIE. I think there is another very practical political consideration to be served here. These people are here to present their problems and their grievances. This is legislation we have been considering for 2 or 3 years. So here is an opportunity for us to respond in a constructive way that is the product of long deliberation. I think we ought to welcome that opportunity.

Let's turn to the suggestion on page 14 of your testimony about the land acquisition provisions of this bill. By deferring for 3 years for persons who might be treated inequitably by the adoption of a policy in which we assured greater equity for those persons after 3 years, are we creating second-class citizenship for those who fall in the 3-year period?

Secretary WEAVER. This recommendation is really a technical one given me by Counsel in the light of difficulties in changing State constitutions and getting State action. The reason for this is purely pragmatic, based on the fact that sometimes the legislatures do not meet every year, sometimes the process of constitutional changes is time consuming. This is the only reason it has been proposed.

Senator MUSKIE. So is that recommendation really keyed to the Bureau of the Budget's recommendation that the costs of these programs be shared?

Secretary WEAVER. No; I do not think this has anything to do with that.

Senator MUSKIE. I am sorry, I was thinking of the other one.

Secretary WEAVER. That is the other; yes.