

Thus, in view of the Supreme Court decision to be handed down within the next 2 months, which is likely to make it unlawful to hold alcoholics criminally liable for public drunkenness charges, the very limited number of facilities now available for treatment of company employees and others with less complicated cases of alcoholism will be overwhelmed with caseloads found by the courts to be alcoholics.

The provisions of title III, part A, of H.R. 15758 would make possible, immediately, the implementation of a much-needed alcoholism treatment program within the Tulsa Community Mental Health Center and other community mental health centers throughout Oklahoma. Without new facilities we face the same grave situation as was the case here in the Nation's Capital following the *Easter* decision.

Comprehensive programs of alcoholism care and control must become a part of the pivotal, basic institutions of our society. The provisions of title III, part A, of H.R. 15758 will provide a very constructive beginning to such needed comprehensive programs. It will provide a stimulus to legislators and to a broad spectrum of allied professional disciplines. And, as more and more of these key persons become interested and involved, more professionals will seek the training provided by title III, part A, of H.R. 15758.

That industry is vitally concerned throughout Oklahoma, not only in their own obvious stake in the problem of alcoholism but in the broader social and cultural implications, is evidenced by the fact that I am an ex officio member of the Tulsa County Bar Association, serving as technical adviser to its grievance committee, and I also serve as technical adviser to the Tulsa Division of the State Department of Corrections. These extra activities resulted from my industrial contacts.

I am a full-blooded American Indian and have a great interest in the problems of the Indians in this country, and I know that alcoholism is one of the most serious of those problems. I also know that, in those municipalities with a significant Indian population, the Indian continues to be jailed for public drunkenness on the slightest provocation. Yet the major proportion of these Indians are suffering from the illness of alcoholism. They should be treated as sick people and not as criminals.

I am therefore doubly pleased with the provisions of the alcoholism bill, title III, part A, H.R. 15758. It will serve a longstanding need from the business community standpoint, it will provide congressional intent that all alcoholics should be treated medically and not as criminals, and it will provide Federal resources to help accomplish a more humane and effective method of dealing with this tremendous problem in all communities.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. ROGERS. Thank you very much. We appreciate the testimony you have given.

Mr. NELSEN?

Mr. NELSEN. I have no questions. I wish to compliment the gentleman for his appearance. I wondered, are you acquainted with Congressman Reifel from South Dakota?

Mr. LOOKOUT. No, I am not.

Mr. NELSEN. He is a Sioux Indian, and he speaks the Sioux language. He is a competent Member of Congress, and he is very concerned about