

council, over on the Senate side also, in trying to work out some of these very difficult problems.

Mr. McCARTHY. Good. I am glad to hear that.

The points you make in conclusion there I think are very valuable. I am pleased to see that you are already in touch with the staffs of Members of both the House and the other body.

Mr. McEwen.

Mr. McEWEN. Mr. Gunther, I appreciate your testimony. I know there are many that share the concern that you have expressed for the League of Cities and the Conference of Mayors and their inability to adequately fund the programs from the Federal level.

I would ask you this: Am I correct in assuming that the League of Cities and the Conference of Mayors are much in favor of the Federal grant program?

SUPPORT FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. GUNTHER. Yes. We have supported it every time there has been a hearing.

Mr. McEWEN. And as far as this new proposal on interest payments is concerned, would I be correct in believing that you would not want to see that put in as a substitute for the grants?

Mr. GUNTHER. Absolutely not. We know in many, many instances because of State and local, but mostly State, legal limitations, they would not participate and it would take sometimes 2 or 3 years to amend the State constitution.

Mr. McEWEN. You are speaking here if this were carried out under the present language, proposing to take away the tax-exempt status?

Mr. GUNTHER. That is correct.

Mr. McEWEN. I think you made a very good point then. What has been proposed as a 3-year program, it might take a good part or all of the 3 years of this temporary program to get States and municipalities to change their legislation to provide a higher debt ceiling—interest ceiling?

Mr. GUNTHER. That is right.

Mr. McEWEN. Thank you very much.

Mr. GUNTHER. Thank you.

Mr. McCARTHY. Thank you, Mr. Gunther.

We have a statement here from our distinguished colleague from New York, Representative John G. Dow, and without objection will appear in the record at this point.

(The statement of the Honorable John G. Dow follows:)

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN JOHN G. DOW OF NEW YORK SUBMITTED TO THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS, APRIL 25, 1968

LAKE POLLUTION CONTROL

Mr. Chairman, as a Congressman who has two bills before your Committee, H.R. 13241 and H.R. 13638, relating to Lake Pollution, I appreciate the opportunity to make a statement at your hearing on water pollution. I note that H.R. 15907 which has been introduced by Members of this Committee does incorporate in Section 6(b) the same concepts for prevention, removal and control of pollution in lakes as my H.R. 13638.

I have been particularly concerned with the problem of entrophication because of a lake in my District which has become unuseable for all practical purposes