

## RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

Though not a part of this bill, the problem of relocation assistance is vitally important in the Federal-aid highway program. There must be adequate funds provided to relocate large numbers of people, businesses, farms, and organizations dislocated by highway construction.

Mr. Chairman, this completes my discussion of the provisions of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1968. The shape of the future highway program will depend in large degree on the decisions of the Congress on this legislation. May I respectfully urge this Committee to make these decision in accord with the provisions of H.R. 17134.

Thank you for permitting me to appear before you. Now my colleagues and I are ready for questions.

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. Any other questions?

Mr. CLEVELAND. Yes, sir.

Getting back to Mr. Cramer's line of inquiry about the advance acquisition of rights-of-way, I am pleased that you have incorporated this into your legislation.

There are some members of the minority that have been on this subject for a good number of years, and I would like to ask you if you are familiar with the legislation that the minority has introduced—this is H.R. 16622, and this has been called to the attention of your staff in a meeting which I had with members of your staff, and I would like to know if you do not feel that this would be a better legislative solution to the problem at hand?

I might add that our advance taking of right-of-way legislation, H.R. 16622 includes relocation expenses, which is something that you feel is important but you have not given us anything solid on.

Secretary BOYD. I advised Mr. Cramer earlier this morning that I was not familiar with that legislation, but that I would review it.

Mr. CLEVELAND. My point is I am surprised, because last week I asked to speak to members of your department, to you, in fact, and your representative came over to my office. They went over the bill with me and they told me you would be prepared to give me a statement at this time. Mr. Burke came over and I spent a couple of hours with him.

Secretary BOYD. Well, I do not want to bore you with my personal itinerary, but I have been out of town from last Wednesday until Saturday night. I have been engaged in testifying every day this week, and I have also been required to fulfill speaking engagements out of town during this week, and I am afraid my staff has not been able to catch a hold of me to tell me what it is all about.

Mr. CLEVELAND. Do you think there is someone in the room who could tell you now? This is important to us. We have been working on this problem for the past 6 years.

Secretary BOYD. I am sure Mr. Bridwell can discuss this. Mr. Bridwell has my full authority to speak for the Department of Transportation.

Mr. BRIDWELL. Mr. Cleveland, I responded earlier to Mr. Cramer on this and said that we would immediately undertake a comparative review of the legislation that we have proposed and the legislation as introduced that you are referring to, and straighten out any technical differences between the two bills. Because with the exception of that one item of relocation assistance, I think that the concept between the two bills is identical.

Mr. CLEVELAND. I would think you could almost do that by 2:30 this afternoon, because members of your staff did come over last week, sat