

While involving Congress itself, undoubtedly this difficulty stems from administrative direction.

Mr. Chairman, I received a call this morning from the director of one of the largest States in the United States advising us that tomorrow the highway program in the State would probably be shut down and thousands and thousands of men put out of work.

Mr. Chairman, I refer to the legislation pending before this Congress and the supplemental appropriation bill involving \$400 million. It is tied up in the Senate, and I am sure you know the reasons better than I. But, suffice it to say, in one great State tomorrow the program will be shut down, and that will be rapidly followed in other States, because the State highway departments have been advancing their own funds now for several weeks. They have run out of money. They have notified the industry there will be no more payments.

Sir, I can assure you that industry cannot afford to finance the Federal-aid highway program.

Mr. Chairman, I am indeed grateful for this privilege of appearing before your committee. Our problems today are many and serious. The conditions existing throughout the Nation and throughout the world and in the District of Columbia would lead us to believe that in the wisdom of this distinguished committee it would be welcome to us if you could find your way clear at this time to pass a simple bill authorizing the continuation of the ABC program and making permissible the continuation of the Interstate program by accepting the new cost estimates.

Again, Mr. Chairman, thank you most sincerely.

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. Thank you, Mr. Miller, for your very good statement.

Chairman Fallon?

Mr. FALLON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Miller, you endorsed the recommendations of AASHO, although AASHO has 11 pages of suggestions on what should be added to or deleted from the basic laws, and they have an expression on a lot of new things that may come. Even though they used 11 pages in outlining their position, in most cases they suggest the same thing that you do, that we have a simple highway bill, an extension of the ABC program, and allocate to it \$1 billion over the next 2 years.

Is that your recommendation?

Mr. MILLER. Yes, Mr. Chairman, most strongly.

Mr. FALLON. Thank you, Mr. Miller. It is always nice to have you up here before the committee. The committee has benefited from your wealth of knowledge and experience over many years.

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. You spoke about the \$400 million supplemental appropriation. When Mr. Turner came to us in May he told us that he would like to have a supplemental appropriation so the contractors, those who have finished their work, could get their pay, and we immediately got busy in the House and they passed it the following day. We did our duty. You know that we passed it on the 13th of May, and it is tied up over in the Senate.

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Miller, I might say, adding to what the chairman said, that the House leadership made known to the Appropriations Committee the importance of this \$400 million being passed as quickly as possible because of the problem it was causing in the future planning