

I just feel that Congress needs to provide at least a minimum extension of the Interstate System to take care of the most pressing cases that exist today.

Let's go as far as we think we can under the circumstances. I come here with a special plea and with a very vital personal interest in my own area. I am sure all members will fully understand as you have problems of somewhat similar nature in legislative matters.

From my hometown of Lubbock, Mr. Arch Lamb will appear who represents the National Association of Counties and also representing our area. Also, Mr. J. C. Dingwall, the highway engineer of the State of Texas, will appear.

I do not want to take the time of the committee beyond saying what I have already said. I hope that you will find a way to extend the Interstate System sufficiently to meet the most pressing cases that are before you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and if there is any additional testimony you are always welcome to put it in.

Mr. MAHON. Thank you very much.

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Wright.

Mr. WRIGHT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I want to compliment my distinguished colleague, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee on his testimony. I do know something about Lubbock and its needs and its roads. Certainly it should be connected with the Interstate System.

Lubbock is one of those towns that falls into the category of those that we initially set out to link together in the Interstate System.

I think the rule of thumb was that we were going to try to link together in one connection all the cities of 100,000 or more population. Lubbock certainly has grown to the point where it amply qualifies to be counted in that role and I want to second the suggestion made by my distinguished colleague.

Mr. MAHON. Thank you.

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. Mr. Cramer?

Mr. CRAMER. I yield to Mr. Cleveland.

Mr. CLEVELAND. I have a question for the gentleman from Texas.

There has been some concern expressed before this committee by members of the committee over the request made by you and Mr. Pickle to extend the interstate, but at the present time, at least some members of the committee are concerned about holding on to what we have got.

I would like to ask you because of your special position as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee if you have any knowledge as to whether or not included in the proposed \$6 billion expenditure cut will be the highway trust fund.

Now, the committee has taken the position that these trust funds should not be cut by administrative action.

We feel that these funds are in a trust fund much as the social security funds are, but it is my understanding that the conferees are going to bring back to the floor the House language, although it will specifically exempt social security trust funds, it is not going to exempt the highway trust fund.