

As has every Member of Congress, I have received a lot of mail and comment from people similar to that which you have just made, that the decisions made by the Congress with respect to recent legislation are harmful.

Mr. Carter, you have commented that some of these amendments to the law are bad. Mr. Wyman has used a little stronger language. I would like to know specifically why; what has been the experience thus far? What do you have to back up the statements you have made as to the ways that these amendments are actually causing problems?

Mr. WYMAN. May I answer your question in part?

Representative RUMSFELD. Certainly.

Mr. WYMAN. I think the other gentlemen will, also.

I cited there the fact that up until this amendment, the 1967 Social Security Act Amendment, we in New York had been able to provide help for the children of an unemployed mother. Now, after the first of July, we will no longer be able to do that with Federal funds.

Representative RUMSFELD. Is that not an oversimplification?

Mr. WYMAN. Well, you wanted a specific example of where this is harmful.

Representative RUMSFELD. Well, let us probe that a little bit.

Mr. WYMAN. As of when? The effective date of this restrictive amendment limiting Federal financial participation in the cost of care of children of unemployed mothers goes into effect the first of July of 1968.

Representative RUMSFELD. Right.

So it has not gone into effect yet.

Mr. WYMAN. That is correct. But you can anticipate the fact that in some States which do not have the resources of New York—for example, where we will continue to provide care for the children of this unemployed mother after July 1—in some States, they will not have the resources to pick up the loss of Federal funds. At that point, some children are not going to get help that today are getting help.

Representative RUMSFELD. So the effect anywhere in the country until July of this year is nothing.

Mr. WYMAN. Correct.

Representative RUMSFELD. And after July the effect in New York will be zero, notwithstanding your previous remarks.

Mr. WYMAN. Zero in the sense that we will pick up the loss of Federal funds.

Representative RUMSFELD. That is my point.

But the effect on the recipients will be zero in New York.

Mr. WYMAN. Hopefully it will be zero; right. But that is only in that particular area I am talking about.

Now, I cited the fact that unless you people correct this freeze concept, as of July 1, 1968, nationwide, there will be a ceiling on the number of children that the Federal Government is interested in helping.

Representative RUMSFELD. It is my understanding that your answer is inaccurate, and I hope you will tell me if I am inaccurate.

I understand that it is not an absolute ceiling on a number; it is a percentage which will allow for an increase in the number of people.

Mr. WYMAN. Only in proportion to the total child population of the State.