

INCOME MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1968

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL POLICY
OF THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to recess, at 10 a.m., in room 1310, Longworth House Office Building, Hon. Senator Proxmire, member of the subcommittee and chairman of the full committee, presiding in place of subcommittee chairman, Representative Martha W. Griffiths.

Present: Senator Proxmire (presiding); and Representative Griffiths.

Also present: John R. Stark, executive director, James W. Knowles, director of research; and Nelson D. McClung, economic consultant.

Senator PROXMIRE. The Fiscal Policy Subcommittee will come to order.

Mrs. Griffiths is unable to chair the session today. She will be here a little later, I understand; but she has asked me to substitute for her in the beginning. I am privileged to have this opportunity.

We have had two interesting sessions on the problems of the present welfare system. The first day we heard testimony from welfare administrators. The second day we heard from people who have looked at the welfare system from the standpoint of welfare recipients.

It is evident from these 2 days of hearings that there are many unresolved problems in income maintenance and the provision of social services. Today we will present four economists in the first of two sessions dealing with proposals for the radical reform of income maintenance.

Gentlemen, we are delighted to have you today. We look forward with great interest to what you have to say.

I understand you have been informed that, if possible, we would appreciate it if you could confine your opening remarks to 15 minutes or less. If to do that, you have to abbreviate or summarize your remarks, the entire statement will be printed in the record.

I might identify the witnesses. Our first witness is Dr. George H. Hildebrand, professor, Department of Economics, Cornell University.

Dr. Hildebrand, we will be happy to hear from you, sir.

STATEMENT OF PROF. GEORGE H. HILDEBRAND, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Mr. HILDEBRAND. Poverty is a complex phenomenon, deriving from many causes. For the same reason, it has no single solution. To attack it successfully requires diverse policies. All of them will cost large