

Representative LAIRD. Thank you very much, Madam Chairman.

I am very interested in the project which is being financed by the OEO through the Poverty Institute at the University of Wisconsin. I think we should watch the results of this project very carefully, because I see in the year 1975 a tremendous welfare bill as far as this country is concerned if we continue along the present program level. With the publicity that is being given to the various welfare programs that we currently have, instead of having 50 percent of those eligible qualified, by the year 1971, we will be up to about 80 percent of those eligible qualifying. I believe the Supreme Court by that time will have done away with all residency requirements, as they moved in that direction yesterday. They also did away with the "man in the house" rule, which is going to add considerably to the program costs as far as the Federal Government is concerned. Having served on the HEW Appropriations Committee ever since that committee was created, I have watched these growing costs and felt that our system was not accomplishing what it was devised to accomplish, and that is to help those people that are the most in need. So I think we have to watch this study very closely. I had felt that the Social Security Administration should really finance this study and that it should have been done in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. They were very slow in moving. So, I commend OEO for going forward with this study. I believe that this study is most important.

I agree, though, that this is a very bad title. Negative income tax is not a good title. I would like to call it the guaranteed work program, or some other title.

Representative GRIFFITHS. That is a great idea.

Representative LAIRD. What I want to see is incentives put to work. I believe that this moves in this direction and does not put incentives on not working, as our current program does. This is the reason that I am interested in it. I think the Joint Economic Committee should be commended for conducting these hearings.

Representative GRIFFITHS. Thank you very much.

Do any of the rest of you have anything else you would like to add?

Mr. LEVINE. I would like to say the New Jersey experiment is called the graduated work incentive experiment for just that reason.

Representative LAIRD. Good. This negative income tax title bothers me a little bit.

Mrs. RIVLIN. I want to say the New Jersey experiment is going to be very interesting and I am very glad it did get funded, though not by our department. The 1967 amendments themselves provide a huge natural experiment in adding incentives to work. We can learn a great deal by watching what happens and collecting information, about women as well as men.

Representative LAIRD. The only problem is that your Department does move very slowly. As a matter of fact, it took your Department 6 months before it even submitted the supplementary budget request to carry out the effect of the new amendments to the social security bill. I do not believe that HEW can point with too much pride to the slow manner in which it moved in this area.

Mr. LAMPMAN. In response to Congressman Laird's concern for the title or name for these programs, I think it is interesting that the