

considerable time and attention to the problems of the industry as a whole, as distinguished from the problems of your company as a corporate entity, is a good sign in the construction industry, and we are glad to have you back.

Mr. NAUMANN. Thank you, sir. Mr. Chairman, I have with me this morning, on my left, Mr. Scott Shotwell, our secretary to our national legislative committee and, on my right, Mr. Art Hintze, the director of our government relations department in AGC nationally on labor matters.

I have a statement that is not too long, and with the permission of the chairman, I would like to read it. Conceivably beyond that, there might be some questions that might be of interest to the committee, because they are certainly of interest to AGC, as representing the construction industry.

With your permission, I will proceed.

My name is William E. Naumann. I am chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Associated General Contractors of America, a trade association of over 8,500 of the Nation's leading general contractors, who perform the greater part of all highway, heavy engineering, and building construction done in the United States each year. I am also a member of the heavy division and a member of its executive and labor committees.

We, at AGC—and, personally, I might add—agree with the general purposes of H.R. 15990. We would like to see a good study made of all phases of seasonality in the construction industry, and we would like to see constructive solutions developed. However, we disagree with some phases of this bill.

We disagree with the fact that the bill would limit the responsibility and authority for making a seasonality study to the Department of Labor. We believe the broad scope of seasonality touches upon the activities and interest of other departments of Government as well, and that any legislation would be remiss in not including those departments specifically as having a responsibility and an authority for such a study.

At this point, I would like to refer to a seasonality bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Prouty of Vermont. I would like to suggest that some consideration be given to the kind of approach taken in that bill to bring in other departments, and private parties for that matter, in an overall study of the seasonality problem. The Prouty bill would establish a Federal Construction Advisory Council composed of the Secretary of Labor, Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Secretary of the Interior, the General Services Administrator, and the Director of the Bureau of the Budget. The Prouty bill would include, in such a Council, representatives of labor and management in the construction industry and representatives of the architectural and engineering professions.

While the Prouty proposal would make the Secretary of Labor Chairman of the Council, we would like to recommend that such group be cochaired by the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Commerce. These various departments and parties would have a substantial contribution to make to this kind of study. We believe