

Senator CASE. My colleague, a much younger man, wishes to get away and, since I sponsored it and he is a Democrat, we had better let him go first and get this bill through.

**STATEMENT OF HON. HARRISON A. WILLIAMS, JR., A U.S. SENATOR
FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

Senator WILLIAMS. Maybe we can get the bill passed this year.

I certainly appreciate the interest of you, Mr. Chairman, Senator Nelson, and the other members of the committee.

Of course, I strongly support this measure. You, Mr. Chairman, are happy in the fact that you live in relatively open land and Senator Nelson lives in the Land of Lakes. We live in a very crowded, congested area of our country, the most densely populated State in the Nation. This legislation represents just a little opening for people, who live with all of the problems of congestion in cities, to have some place that is open and wild and beautiful.

I know you will hear a lot today from people who know more about the Great Swamp than I do. Congressman Frelinghuysen, I believe, lives within almost a loon's call of the Great Swamp and he is far more of an authority on it than I.

I do have a Labor Committee meeting and one of my bills is before the committee, but I want to present my statement for your consideration.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this proposal—not only because I support the bill, but because I am always glad to acknowledge your continuing leadership in matters of conservation and natural resources. Those who recognize the importance of maintaining a workable balance between developed and unspoiled lands know that they have a friend in the chairman, and in the subcommittee, and they are grateful.

A child of the inner city grows up tougher than most, better able to argue a bargain with a shrewd merchant, more at home in a crowded subway. These things are quite true, but they also suggest something very unfortunate; they suggest that the "child of the inner city" gets very little chance to experience anything else but crowded conditions, sweaty-hot subways, and dirty streets.

I want to remind the subcommittee that this kind of urban life is spreading, swallowing up whole chunks of rural land, and, in fact, overwhelming the landscape. Megalopolis is no longer a theory; it is bumper-to-bumper fact, stretching along ugly highways from Boston to Washington. It is a gas-station, shopping-center, smoky-air fact.

Of course, there are many things we can do to improve the urban condition even as it develops. We are putting some of those programs to work today. But we can attack the problem in another way, by holding on to the few parcels of open space that are left. We can refuse to let them go under to the bulldozer and the concrete spreader. It is this kind of attack on the problem that will earn us the gratitude of the next generation, when families go looking for a place to sit under a tree.

The Great Swamp, in Morris County, N.J., is unique among the remaining parcels of unspoiled land in the East. It is a large tract of undeveloped land in the shadow of the greatest human concentration on