

CONSULTATION ON HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN

September 26, 1979

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
Phoenix, Arizona

| 1 | INDEX | |
|----|----------------------|------|
| 2 | | |
| 3 | WITNESS | PAGE |
| 4 | Sen. Robert Usdane | 8 |
| 5 | Mr. Arthur Portillo | 30 |
| 6 | Ms. Opal Ellis | 57 |
| 7 | Mr. Robert Vanosky | 66 |
| 8 | Mr. Clark Cederlof | 81 |
| 9 | Ms. Marie Lilyquist | 113 |
| 10 | Mr. John Evans | 120 |
| 11 | Mr. Colin Montgomery | 125 |
| 12 | Ms. Ida Vasquez | 141 |
| 13 | | |
| 14 | | |
| 15 | | |
| 16 | | |
| 17 | | |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | | |
| 20 | | |
| 21 | | |
| 22 | | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | | |
| 25 | | |
| | | |

| 1 | ARIZONA STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE | | |
|----|---|--|--|
| 2 | TO THE | | |
| 3 | UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 6 | CONSULTATION ON HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES | | |
| 7 | FOR MINORITIES AND WOMEN | | |
| 8 | | | |
| 9 | September 26, 1979 | | |
| 10 | | | |
| 11 | THOSE PRESENT: | | |
| 12 | DR. MORRISON F. WARREN, Chairperson | | |
| 13 | Ms. Ruth L. Bean Mr. Philip Montez (WRO) | | |
| 14 | Mr. Manuel Pena Mr. Arthur Palacios (WRO) | | |
| 15 | Ms. Melinda S. Watkins | | |
| 16 | | | |
| 17 | | | |
| 18 | THE ABOVE ENTITLED consultation was held in the | | |
| 19 | Maricopa Room, Adams Hotel, 111 North Central Avenue, | | |
| 20 | Phoenix, Arizona, commencing at the hour of 9:00 a.m. and | | |
| 21 | the following proceedings were had, to wit: | | |
| 22 | | | |
| 23 | | | |
| 24 | | | |
| 25 | | | |
| | | | |

PROCEEDINGS

2 3

4

5

6

THE CHAIR: May I have your attention? We shall begin this consultation on housing opportunities for minorities and women in the State of Arizona.

7 8

All of you have agendas and there have been two changes I would like to call your attention to. At 11:00 o'clock, Ms. Opal Ellis, who is the Assistant Director of the Department of Housing and Urban Redevelopment for the City of Phoenix, Opal Ellis will fill in for Mr. Mike J. Moloney, who's out of the city.

11 12

13

10

And at 11:45, Mr. Clark Cederlof, C-e-d-e-r-l-o-f, who is an executive vice president with Western Savings and Loan Association, will fill in for Mr. John D. Driggs, who is also out of the city on business.

14 15

> Other than those two changes, ostensibly the agenda will remain the same.

17 18

16

I'm Morrison Warren and I'm the Chair of the Arizona Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. And the function of this state advisory committee is to advise and make recommendations to the United States or any of its subcommittees have studied.

20 21

19

Commission on Civil Rights upon matters which the committee

22 23

The other members in attendance at this advisory

24

committee are first Ms. Ruth L. Bean, Ms. Melinda S. Watkins,

Mr. Manuel Pena, Sr., and we expect Mr. Theodore Williams.

Also with us from the western regional office of the commission are Mr. Art Palacios and our Western Regional Director, Mr. Philip Montez.

This consultation is being held pursuant to rules applicable to state advisory committees and other requirements promulgated by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. The commission on civil rights is an independent agency of the United States Government, established by Congress in 1957, and authorized by the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960, 1964 and 1973, first of all to investigate complaints alleging that citizens are being deprived of the right to vote by reason of their race, color, religon, national origin or sex.

Secondly, study and collect information concerning legal developments which constitute a denial of equal protection of the laws under the Constitution.

Thirdly, to appraise federal laws and policies with respect to equal protection of the laws.

And fourthly, to serve as a national clearing house for civil rights information and fifthly, to investigate allegations of voter fraud.

I wish to emphasize at this time that this is a consultation and not an adversary type of proceeding.

Individuals have been invited to come and share with the

12.

committee information relating to the subject of today's inquiry. Each person who will participate has voluntarily agreed to meet with the committee.

This consultation being held today is part of the on-going concern and interest on the part of the commission toward housing issues in the United States. In March of this year the national office of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights released a report entitled a federal fair housing enforcement effort, which details the enforcement effort of the federal government. It's short comments, and made specific recommendations to them.

In our attempt to get a well balanced picture of the housing situation in Arizona, we have invited individuals involved in housing issues on a day to day basis as well as those involved in housing programs. Since this is a consultation, the press, radio, television stations as well as individuals are welcome. Any person discussing a matter with the committee, however, may specifically request that they not be televised, in this case it will be necessary for me to comply with their wishes.

We're very concerned that we get all of the information relating to the matter under investigation. We are, however, concerned that no individual be the victim of slander or libelous statements. As a precaution against such a happening, persons making a statement here or answering

questions have been interviewed prior to this meeting.

However, in the unlikely event that such a situation should develop, it will be necessary for me to call this to the attention of the persons making the statement and request that they desist in their action. If the testimony a person is offering, however, is of such importance, it may be necessary for the committee to hear the information at a closed meeting.

The person against whom the allegations are being made will have ample opportunity to make a statement in closed session before the committee if he or she so desires.

In any event, prior to the time that the committee submits its report to the commission, every effort will be extended to get a complete picture of the situation as it exists. We are concerned that no individual be the victim of retaliation for any statements made at this consultation. Witnesses are protected by the provisions of 18 US Code 1505, which provide, and I quote, whoever by threats or force or by any threatening letter of communication endeavors to intimidate, to influence or impede any witness in any proceeding pending before any department or agency of the United States, or in connection with any inquiry or investigation being held by either house, or any committee of either house, or whoever injures any party or witness in his or her person or property on account of

3

5 6

7 8

9

10 11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20 21

22

23

24 25 his or her attending or having attended such proceedings, inquiry or investigation, or on account of his or her testifying to a matter pending therein, shall be fined not more than \$5,000.00 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

In the event that any person testifying before this committee considers any adverse action taken against him or her to be the result of having testified, he or she should immediately contact the Western Regional Office of the United States Commission on Civil Rights.

May we have our first scheduled expert, please, Mr. Robert -- Honorable, I'm sorry, Robert Usdane, of the Arizona Senate.

For the benefit of the audience, State Senator Robert. Usdane has served in the senate since 1976, he is chairman of the health, welfare and aging committee and a member of the finance committee, the government committee, the education committee and the joint select committee on tax reform and school finance.

Senator Usdane is a member of the Scottsdale School Board and has been a member of the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce. He is a selfemployed financial consultant in marketing and sales, and Senator Usdane will provide an overview of House Bill 2304. Banate to Bakas & .

Senator Usdane.

SENATOR ROBERT USDANE

2 3

Α. (By Sen. Usdane) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6

5

7 8

9

10

11

12 13

14

15

16

17 18

19

20

21 22

23

24

25

Having never participated in a consultation, I'm not sure you want me to say anything after that opening Further, I will apologize to the committee by having to read a fairly concise report of what the bill does only because of time constraints in terms of assessing the background information.

In addition to having participated at the senate, I have been in the bonding business and so have some acquaintance with the information as it relates to revenue bonds and industrial development authorities. Although as far as expertise go I'm not sure that the information that I can give you is any more expert than anything else.

I would like to, in addition to the testimony on the overview, of 2304, give you some background as to a couple of personal impressions as to the problems as they relate to this type of financing, and also to the Ullman, proposed proposed Ullman legislation in the federal congress.

By way of background, the states and local governments have used tax exempt revenue bonds to finance housing for low and moderate income groups for a significant period of time. The process works as follows: In a typical housing bond program, the state or local government will

issue a revenue bond for purposes of making low interest mortgage loans for single family housing. The lower tax exempt interest rate allows the state or local government to relend the bond proceeds to individuals at approximately one or two percentage points below the conventional housing mortgage rate.

As an example, on a 40 or \$50,000.00 home the amount may be as high as a \$80.00 a month in lower house payment, and with this reduced interest rate, low or moderate income groups can qualify for home ownership.

The bond proceeds are normally funneled through banks which make the loans and service the mortgages, and the bonds are paid off from the mortgage payments which are made by individual homeowners. The state housing agency bill, which was introduced in 1975, originally in the legislature had never succeeded in passing. However, two bills have passed, one in 1978 and Hous Bill 2304 in 1979 which have allowed local governments, cities and counties to use the authority to issue bonds through the industrial development authority basis.

Arizona has approximately 41 industrial development authorities. Under these mortgage programs, the IDA sets up guidelines for the establishment of low and moderate income housing programs.

An issue is put together by a group of people or a

developer and the developer applies the local IDA -applies to the local IDA board for permission to go ahead
with the bond sale. Upon approval by the board, the bonds
are sold to the public and the proceeds from the bond sale
are deposited in a custodial financial institution or
any other local financing institution.

The originating financing institution under the mortgage purchase program would then sell existing mortgages to the custodial institution but continue to service the mortgages that were sold remitting the principal and the interest payments to the custodial company on a prescribed date through the years of participation.

The custodial institution then makes the principal and interest payments to the bond holders.

The money generated from the sale of the mortgages by originating -- by the originating institution is then used for low and moderate income mortgages within the guidelines of the state legislation. Only seven states are now legally able to establish this type of tax exempt mortgage bond and they are Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky and Nevada.

The tax exempt mortgage revenue bond issued by the local industrial development authority provides local involvement in a loan process and once these bonds have been issued and there is created a partnership actually

with the private lender to provide funds for the financing of the housing.

Using the backing of the city or the town to achieve the tax exempt status.

The primary risk, however, is a default and that's borne by the bond holder. These are revenue bonds. And these issues and the institutions which originate and service the mortgage do not bear any of the risk.

Part of the controversy that develops in this type of bond as I believe is that there is a moral obligation which sometimes moves back to either the state or the city or the county or wherever the authority exists, and the holder of the bond may feel that there is a moral obligation.

In some cases those moral obligations have actually resulted in some payments, the Coliseum being one where financing was given by the legislature as it got into problems, even though it was a revenue bond originally that was sold.

The risk that the political subdivision bears is that an adverse impact on its bond rating if a larger number of mortgages are foreclosed and hence the revenue bond issue goes into default, or if the quantity of the bond issue is not justified by the local economy.

The principal benefactors of this scheme or mortgage financing are the low and moderate income groups that receive

additional funds that would not have been available through the private or public sector. The program is designed to meet the needs of a select group of people who have been forced out of the private market due to the downpayment requirements, and do not qualify for federal subsidies under the low income requirements.

Just to explain, briefly, what House Bill 2304 specifically did, here's a summary: Number 1, the income limits. The Arizona bill states, now law, states that families of low and moderate income can not have an annual income exceeding 1.15 times the state median family income which is determined by DES, department of economic security. The 1978 median family income is approximately \$17,000.00 for a family of four, 1.15 on this basis would allow a family of four with an income of less than \$20,000.00 a year to qualify for the program.

Two, the legislation also includes a special provision for the Cities of Tucson and Phoenix which was designed to entice moderate to high income families to return to the blighted area of the inner city. The income limitation for this program is two and one-half times the state median income. Therefore, we're talking about families with an income of \$42,000.00 a year or less, which would qualify for low interest mortgages under House Bill 2304.

The higher income limitation in the slum or blighted areas designed to induce the higher income person to move back into the inner city and provide a mix of economic levels and many times the racial mix within that area.

The establishment of these income limits within House Bill 2304 does not eliminate the existing authority of the IDA to establish their own maximum limitation which may be lower than the statutory maximum. That was the second major controversy in terms of this bill and that is that it's questionable whether those dollars really help the individuals in an economic base where they need the low to moderate income financing, and without getting into the personal concerns, being a legislator who did vote for the bill, which is now law, I would only explain to you that that was part of the problem that we were dealing with.

Number 3 is the calculation of the net income. The calculation of the net income of those people desiring to partake in the program is determined by taking into account gross earnings from the employment, net earnings from businesses, professional practices or partnerships and farms, and other income such as social security payments, interest, dividend, pensions, welfare, or assistance payments.

Individuals seeking a loan must apply at the financial

institution and it's up to that institution to make the determination within the guidelines of the statute.

Four, the types of programs. There are three basic types. Loans to lenders, where the bank receives the money generated from the bond sale and makes loans to the various applicants based upon their income limitation, mortgage purchase program.

What this means is that participating financial institution sells the mortgages to the custodial bank which has been set up by the IDA and the proceeds from these sales are used to finance low and moderate income loans to the applicants. And again within those income guidelines.

Then they have direct loans, which under House Bill 2304 can occur only in cities over 250,000 people. In cities of this population, areas will be considered to be slum or blighted areas and the single family dwellings may be financed, on a direct loan basis to persons within this area.

The industrial development authority, however, is required to utilize the services of a mortgage lender as the contracting agent in making the direct loans.

Number 5, the bond issue to finance a single family dwelling on a direct loan basis need not be rated double A, and the income limitations above do not apply. The direct loan authorization does not preclude the financing of single

5

7

6

9

10 11

12

13

14 15

16

17

18 19

20

21 22

23

24

25

family dwellings in slum or blighted areas as a part of a general mortgage purchase or loans to the lenders program under the existing county or city IDA program.

On April 27, 1979, Representative Ullman, who is the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, introduced the Mortgage Subsidy Bond Tax Act of 1979. The reason for the introduction of this bill was to control the amount of money that the states and local entities were issuing in tax exempt bond for owner occupied housing.

For example, in 1978, state and local government issued 3.4 billion dollars of tax exempt bonds for owner occupied housing. During the first four months of 1979, state and local governments have issued 3.3 billion alone for tax exempt bonds for owner occupied housing.

Mr. Ullman stated that the tax exempt bonds tend to offset the impact of the budgetary and monetary policies on housing and shift the burden to other sectors of the economy. Therefore, the committee believed it was necessary to reexamine the relevant taxes and those provisions that permit the use of these tax exempt: bonds.

The Ullman bill itself is very short. It just deletes industrial development authority revenue bonds from the list of bonds that are allowed on a tax exempt basis. Which directly affects the bill that we're talking about.

The effect of the Ullman bill since April 27th has

been to throw the single family tax exempt revenue bond market into utter chaos. Presently several firms in Phoenix and Tucson are continuing to issue revenue bonds which are approved prior to the April 27th date, however, the interest rates in the sales for these revenue bonds have been more difficult due to the uncertainty of the passage or defeat of the Ullman bill.

The committee report on the Ullman bill was approved on August 31, 179, however more recently information is that the bill has been returned to the committee for further work.

The main reason that Representative Ullman introduced his bill was that the revenue loss from tax exempt bond amounted to approximately 23 million dollars per year for each one million dollars of outstanding bonds. Thus the annual revenue loss from 6.7 billion of the outstanding housing bond issued in '78-'79, amounted to approximately 155 million dollars a year.

In addition, the House Ways and Means Committee believes that tax exempt bonds may not be the efficient method of providing a subsidy to housing.

As the supply of tax exempt bonds grows, the issuers must offer higher and higher interest rates to attract the investor and thus the final interest rate offered to the low and moderate income groups for mortgages is very often close

to the conventional interest rate and does not provide interest rate subsidy that was intended.

The Ullman committee also believed that the individuals who had the greatest need for subsidy are the low and moderate income people who have difficulty obtaining a mortgage and who are purchasing their first home.

Accordingly, the Ullman bill tries to limit the groups of people who partake in these programs by the following restrictions: One is the income limitation, the bill requires recipients of the subsidy have income levels below certain designated percentages of the median area income.

Two, the purchase price limitations. The Ullman committee believes the tax exempt bonds should not be used to provide a luxury home even where the income of the individual is low or moderate due to the receipt of money from other sources.

Three, there's a three-year requirement. Persons who receive this subsidy should be those who are buying their first home or who have not recently owned a home. The committee limited the individuals that can qualify for these loans to those who have not owned a home within the previous three years.

Four, the principal residents requirement. Many believe that the home should be the principal residence of the individual and should not be for investment purposes.

Five, the new mortgage requirement. The committee also believes that the proceeds of the bonds should be used to provide new mortgages and not to refinance existing mortgages at lower subsidized rates. Targeted portion.

The committee believes that at least 20% of the mortgages financed from bond proceeds should be used for mortgages within the target area of the authority, then there's a loan to value requirement and that the largest barriers to owning a home is the ability to come up with a sufficient down payment, therefore the committee would require that at least 75% of the mortgages financed with tax exempt bond money provide a loan to value ratio of at least 95%. That is on a \$50,000.00 home the down payment can not be more than \$2,500.00. The Arizona bill, House Bill 2304, as law, provides many of the guidelines that were written into the Ullman legislation.

In fact, several of the local attorneys testified before the Ullman committee and presented the guidelines in Arizona.

The only changes that may be necessary in the Arizona bill would be as follows: That the 1.5 median limitation for most tax exempt mortgages will fit the guidelines of the Ullman bill, however the higher income limitation of 2.5 times the median income, which was enacted to attract higher income people to return to the blighted areas

-

of the inner city do not fall within the Ullman guidelines and the legislature may have to enact purchase price limitations on these homes in order to qualify.

In Arizona House Bill 2304 carried an emergency clause and went into effect on May 2, '79. Due to the movement of the Ullman bill in Congress very little has been done as far as issuing bonds for tax exempt financing, however Pima: County has drafted guidelines for the issuance of tax exempt revenue bonds by the Pima County Industrial Development Authority.

I have given to Senator Pena a copy of that resolution.

Pinal County is also in the process of drafting guidelines for an IDA loan.

I checked with the City of Phoenix and presently they are using federal funds for housing developments and awaiting the outcome of the Ullman bill before they issue revenue bonds for the development.

On September 12, '79, Governor Bruce Babbitt appointed five members of the housing finance review board, which is required under House Bill 2304. This board will review the bond prospectus and approve or disapprove the issuance of bonds based upon the legislative guidelines.

The bill also requires that the housing finance review board not approve loans to any single corporation that

1

3

5

6

7 8

9

10

11

12 13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

21

-22 23

24

25

exceeds 75 million and shall not approve the aggregate amount of loans for all corporations in excess of 400 million.

Further, for the benefit of the committee, I have a flow chart that shows both forms, how they work, and what process it goes through. I hope I haven't taken too long.

Not at all. You're well within your THE CHAIR: limit of time.

There probably are some questions that the committee wants to address to you.

A. I'll try to answer, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIR: Any member of the committee have any questions they wish to address to Senator Usdane?

- (By Mr. Pena) Mr. Chairman, he covered everything pretty well and left very little room for questions. I'm wondering if the Ullman bill doesn't become law, and IDA's are -- become a possibility in Arizona, what is the -what is the market for the -- for IDA bonds?
- That's a good question, Senator. I would only be able to give you a perception or a personal opinion, and I want to point out to the committee that while I was in that business, I left it approximately a year ago and became an independent consultant. I believe that industrial development bonds are controllable more by the selling in the market that's established, and as more and more of these

bonds float into the market place, obviously with the interest rates coming higher, they're less saleable. So the problem will transfer from the Ullman concern to the real concern of the Congress, in my opinion, which is that tax exempt bonds are a problem, and they're even talking about removal in host — the host area. I think they'll continue to be sold, Arizona will be able to sell the bonds, there is a market place, however limited, I believe, and the interest rates will just have to become higher and higher levels, thereby eroding the benefit to low and moderate income people.

Q Idm curious of the statement that you made, that Pinal County is in the process of developing an IDA authority by themselves? There is a population restriction.

A. Yes. I -- I'm afraid I can't give you much background on that but we could certainly or the committee could certainly get that information easily.

As you probably know, the two major areas being Tucson and Phoenix, and 12 county areas that are entitled to go under one section of the bill. They can't make the direct loan. But they can make the other types.

MR. PENA: I don't have any further questions.

THE CHAIR: Any other questions by any member of the committee?

Q (By Ms. Watkins) Senator, the bill, as I understand it, is basically limiting the loans to single family dwellings. Was there any consideration given to multifamily dwellings?

A It was discussed during the time that all of the bills that have been proposed were proposed in the legislature. However, I don't believe they ever had a chance out of committee because of the major controversies that developed just in going this far.

There is a very large concern about government moving into the building of housing. This does not do that. But that's where they got in originally, under multifamily, apartment and such, dwellings, and the legislature, I don't believe, would move in that direction.

Q Thank you.

One more question too. In the Phoenix area I'm more familiar with that, perhaps, what would they consider in the terms of the bill the blighted area?

A I don't know that I'm really qualified to answer that.

I can only tell you we talked about the area in downtown

Phoenix surrounding the Deuce area, I don't know that there's any housing land really available in that area, but I would think, having been in the building business in the sales end of it years ago, not selling housing but to subcontractors, that any area south of Washington that would be residential

probably would qualify down to as far south as Roeser maybe a little below Roeser I don't know specifically, however.

MS. WATKINS: Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Any other questions?

- Q. (By the Chair) Has there been any operational experience?
 - A. In Arizona?
 - Yes, with the bill effects?
- A. No, sir. Phoenix is working on it as well as Tucson, Tucson's farther ahead. The previous bill that passed didn't have any requirements in it, and so they didn't use it at all. The savings and loans and banks were fighting amongst themselves on it. I think if I might expand on your question just for a second, I have two major concerns about this business in terms of whether or not we're really going to help individuals that need the help.

The first one is that I'm -- I believe having been in the housing market, from a sales standpoint and often consulting with individuals who are presently in it, that houses are not really built at the level of income even that is involved in this in terms of their availability. Until there are builders who are willing to build houses that individuals can afford at lower than median income, I'm not sure we're helping to solve the problem.

1 The second point is the Ullman consideration, and 2 that is that I believe we're between a rock and a hard spot. 3 Nobody's going to buy those bonds as long as that Ullman 4 bill is even thought of. And so that's where I believe 5 we really are. 6 THE CHAIR: Are there any other questions? 7 Is the testimony that you gave available to us? 8 A. If there's a copy machine here, yes is the answer to 9 your question. I would make the copies here. If not, I 10 will go back to the legislature, which I will be there in 11 about a half-hour or so, I'll make a number of copies and 12 get them to Senator Pena or --13 Is there a machine available? THE CHAIR: 14 MR. PALACIOS: There's one in the hotel. 15 A. This, as far as I'm concerned, is certainly allowable. 16 I need the copy back, but you're welcome to it. 17 THE CHAIR: We would appreciate it. 18 Staff does a good job, I'm not so sure I could have 19 done any of it without their help. 20 And that includes the schematic, the flow chart? 21 Yes, that's what I -- I have given that, that's not A. 22 in there but you have that or -- it's right there. 23 THE CHAIR: Okay. 24 Q. (By Mr. Montez) One more generalized question, 25

Senator.

Housing generally in Arizona for the issue that

we are at hand here today, that is minorities and women in housing, from your perception as a senator of the state, how do things look for that low income and moderate group as a general question, you know, not referring to 2304, but from the standpoint of the civil rights commission which deals with minorities and women?

A. Okay, that's partly what I was alluding to in my last statement. I -- I'm not sure that I'm qualified to give you anything other than a personal perception.

Q. Yes.

A Having come from Scottsdale where our problem is different, and the land costs are at such a level and the layout of that land is that I was on the Scottsdale School Board for eight years as an example, even previously, our teachers who came to work in Scottsdale couldn't live in Scottsdale because they couldn't buy a home. That's gotten worse, not better.

Even though the city council is concerned and are attempting to change that, the whole plan of the McCormick Ranch was moving in that direction, I hate to tell you what a house sells for on McCormick Ranch.

Maybe I will tell you. I -- you know, we're in the 80 to 150 to \$250,000.00 class, that's classy. But to be more specific, I do believe that there are people who build houses that are certainly able to be purchased by individuals

3

4 5

6 7

8 9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16

17

18

19

20 21

22

23

24 25

who are at low and moderate income.

I just don't believe that that market place has -has developed to the point where it's proven by any subsidized basis that you can move somebody into them and that they're going to stay there or be capable of staying there even if you reduce the payment by 80 or \$100.00. I don't think subsidy is the answer.

Again it's personal perception and I'm expanding but I feel very strongly about it, I think you have to change the entire environment for the individual that moves into that area and allow them to make a livelihood and participate in programs at the level that they choose to. Subsidy doesn't do it. So what I'd like to see happen is the development of builders in the market place that could resolve, in some profit motive because that's the way our economy is set, to allow them to build houses that those individuals can earn income to afford to live in.

And I don't think that's happening.

- Q. Does subsidy remove the motivation for the builder, would you say, because of the restrictions?
- It's just that the demand is such that they can make more, I would believe, outside that market place. And so they have to give them a better motive than we have given them to this point. And I'm not sure government does a very good job on anything, being a participant in it, I can

1 only tell you that the longer I participate the more skeptical 2 I become. It grows well. That's all I know. 3 (By Ms. Watkins) Question. In the house bill, 4 would it fit, then, the parameters of the Ullman legis-5 lation, is my understanding correct, then, that a family 6 could only qualify for a loan under this bill one time? 7 It would be only for a first dwelling? 8 That's -- it would have to be the first mortgage, 9 that's correct. I think in some form the Ullman bill will 10 I really do. There's a tremendous amount of pressure qo. 11 building in the market place to stop tax exempt bonds. 12 Especially revenue. Because people don't really under-13 stand them, unless they're an investor. Revenue bond, 14 again, does not carry any guarantee from the state or the 15 local government, just that moral obligation. 16 0. That was one of my other questions, was you had 17 mentioned a default, so where does the risk rest? 18 A. It rests with the bond investor because the bank's 19 protected and the individual when he can't pay simply moves 20 from the home. 21 MS. WATKINS: Thank you. 22 MR. PENA: May I add to that, that FHA insurance is 23 also required, this is a protection for the investor. 24 conventional loans also would be required to be insured. 25 That also is a protection for the investor.

THE CHAIR: Am I reading a nuance in this subtlety of what you're saying, that home ownership for the poor increasingly is becoming more difficult and it is not likely that they can look forward to any single family residences?

A. My personal opinion again, that's all I can give you and I can tell you it's not just the poor, it's those that fall at median or below and even in some cases those that move above.

Housing is getting more and more expensive, there's no secret about that. Costs are continuing to increase at a rate higher than the income levels are increasing and the double digit inflation, and I think unless we have some really big reversal, that's exactly what will happen.

Less and less people are going to own houses in the future.

And again, that's only a personal perception, and I'm not a soothsayer of doom, I just -- that's my opinion.

- Q (By the Chair) So the bottom line is in, if I'm reading you correctly, this legislation then conceivably was a futile effort?
- A. I think at best this legislation was a compromise to get the industry in to start doing something that would help somebody and I think it accomplished that, if the Ullman bill hadn't come into force some people would have

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

benefited more than they would have without the bill. And while it doesn't get into the area that I'm -- that we're talking about now, I do think it has an economic benefit. But only to a certain level, that economic level we talked about, and the availability of a house that costs that amount.

Q. Do you view any myth building on the horizon to inform young people and marginally income people to that fact, that home ownership probably is something that they will probably never experience except by chance or luck?

A. Myth building, was that your question? I don't I -- I'm not -- I don't have the ability to answer know. that question, even perceptually I'm not aware of that. It's only my perception. And it may be a myth. further possible that you'll speak to other individuals who are much more qualified in terms of the market_place on mortgages, etcetera, at this time, who will give you different information than I've just given you. I'll just tell you this, I'm going to build a house in Scottsdale myself and the mortgage rate I don't have to telly youthow high that is right now, and the costs are going up immensely and I'll be lucky to build one. And I'm not at the low income level.

. THE CHAIR: Are there any other questions by any members of the committee? If not, we certainly want to thank

1 you, Mr. Usdane, and you certainly enlightened us on the 2 ramifications of that legislation. 3 A. Thank you. I appreciate being able to have been 4 here, and I hope it has been of some help, it's not an 5 easy problem. 6 MS. WATKINS: Thank you. 7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, sir. 8 A. Thank you. 9 THE CHAIR: The next presenter is Mr. Arthur Portillo, 10 who is the director of the housing program for Chicanos Por 11 La Causa, Incorporated, a community based organization 12 began in 1969. 13 The housing program is primarily involved in 14 counseling and referral but they sometimes interact with 15 other agencies on behalf of their clients. 16 Mr. Portillo will make a presentation on this 17 organization's housing program and housing needs as he 18 perceives them to be. 19 Mr. Portillo? 20 21 MR. ARTHUR PORTILLO 22 23 (By Mr. Portillo) Good morning. Thank you very much 24 for inviting me. 25 I'd like to start first of all before we get into

the House Bill 2304, with some of the history of some of the other low and moderate income housing programs that we've seen. Basically they started in 1968 with the HUD Act, and the primary program that came out of there was section 235. This program was meant for the low and moderate income family, a family making approximately anywhere from six to \$8,000.00 could afford a house with \$200.00 down, monthly payments were within their ability, except that some entities began, of course, seeing the profits involved in this type of program, very lucrative, and we'll all read the newspapers throughout the nation which involved developers, involved some real estate people, involved lenders and involved HUD personnel, in the abuse and misuse of this type of program.

Locally it started an extreme problem with concentration of low and minority families in almost 100% subdivisions being developed for this program.

The urban renewal, another phenomena of 1968, also began some programs by demolishing the slum and blighted areas, unfortunately those areas are now vacant, the housing that is being developed in some of those areas is not within reach of the families who are supposedly to reap the benefits.

A lot of these low income families have been displaced, only they know where they live at now. A prime example

within the Phoenix area is the neighborhood development program which has utilized approximately 16 million dollars under the old urban renewal act program and also the new community development program. Community development block grant funds. This is still predominantly vacant, they are making some progress but again the housing within that area is not for low and moderate income families.

Under some of these programs, there has been quite an extensive misuse of funding, the people that are supposed to, again, be benefited by the program have not, the -- again the section 235 program, the families that did receive these benefits were low and moderate income families, the law that was passed was well intended, but obvious reasons, the program in 1973 became, under the Nixon administration was placed under moratorium along with some other subsidized programs, and the reason behind that, that the government stated that they would go bankrupt if they continued to subsidize housing.

The moratorium was in effect, placed the total nation in a recession. The outcome of that we saw locally as well as nationally, was abandonment of housing, vacating of housing, foreclosure of housing, consequently we saw housing that was badly needed by poor and moderate income families not being utilized.

The brunt of the blame was placed on the family. I

.

can assure you that the families were not in the business of conspiring or trying to invest in these houses, they were not in the mode of defrauding the government of subsidized housing.

The people that did benefit from these programs were the developers, real estate people, lenders.

We at Chicanos Por La Causa became involved in the section 235 program in 1971, we did develop 20 units under section 235, we did assist families to buy these units, and at this point in time, I can tell you that about 16 of those families still reside in these units, the other four were either sold or were foreclosed on because of marital problems, all of the education and counseling in the world can not really take care of those problems once they've made up their minds.

The families bought these homes under section 235 with the idea that it was the American dream. To far too many of these families it became a disaster and it destroyed the family structure. We have seen families abandoned by the head of household, we have seen them have nervous breakdowns, we have seen other social problems arise because of the pressures that are brought forth on a family when they are losing their home.

The families that were placed in this housing with all good intentions, were never educated or told about the

24 recertification process, that annually they must go back to
the mortgage company or the mortgage company is supposed
to mail out these documents to update thier income and
family composition. Consequently, if the families
did not have this kind of information, the payments at whatever
level they were, were increased to the maximum amount.

Now, the family unknowingly, and again not being provided this type of information, could not understand why all of a sudden from a \$100.00 payment a month they're paying 180. And they can not afford it. They start investigating and inquiring and the answers can not be heard. They also didn't know that they had a three-year period after being suspended off the section 235 program to be admitted again if their income went under, went below their average income at that point in time.

These are the problems that I saw, personally saw that were blamed on families because of their lifestyle, their income, their education, other ramifications that were involved in Lit. But yet the people that sold them these houses sold them on the idea, never took the time out to tell them what it took to own a home.

These are first time home buyers, low income families, poorly educated, not really understanding when the payments are due, what late charges are, when they're due, what a note and deed of trust are. Now, for some reason still

unknown, this information was never made available to the family. By any of the entities involved.

Under the 1974 housing and community development act we saw the section 235 program revised but the revised program completely wiped out the low income family. It did leave some leeway for the moderate income family to come in and utilize the program. They've also found themselves in the same situation. They've got a little more income, they've got a higher degree of education and they still find themselves in this type of problem.

Not understanding the process of mortgage financing, not understanding what a contract for purchase and receipt is, far too many familes are losing hard earned income before they even set foot inside the door.

The community development block grant funds under the 1974 act also provided a well intended program. We saw areas designated as upgrading or blight and slum areas, the families living in those areas are to reap the benefits by either demolishing or rehabbing their houses, the areas that I have seen designated and community development block grant fund utilized have not been upgraded to the point where it's made an impact in this city.

The intended legislation was to eliminate blight, to conserve and renew older areas, urban areas, and to improve the living environment of low and moderate income

families. I have seen some of those funds utilized not for low and moderate income families but for other purposes, economics, which we understand far too well. But does those economics actually assist low and moderate income families?

The revised program under section 235 at this point in time, the family, a family of four can not exceed an adjusted income of 16,800. The gross income figures out to about 18,270. Mortgage limits for three-bedroom is 38,000 under FHA. We know that we can not find a new constructed home which is another requirement under this program, for \$38,000.00 in this town.

A family that can afford to pay 38,000 or 120% above that which is the sales price of these houses, which puts it approximately at four -- I'm sorry, 45,600, we're looking at a difference of \$7,600.00 a family has to come up with in order to qualify for a \$38,000.00 mortgage.

Now, a family that can save \$7,600.00 does not need section 235. They can go out in the conventional market and buy cash to mortgage for a better rate of interest. The down payment is set at 3%, in order for a family to qualify under section 235 and bring that mortgage down to 38,000, the sales price must be approximately 39,140.

This well intended housing program can not, and is not being utilized by low income families.

This now brings us up to date to House Bill 2304.

This house bill is a first in this state. I may be mistaken in this but it's the first time I have seen the State of Arizona become involved in housing. This, the intent of this legislation, and let me quote this first paragraph within the act itself, is the legislature finds that within the state there is a critical shortage of housing and mortgage credit for housing within the financing means of persons and families of low and moderate income.

In reviewing the act, there are several questions and concerns that were brought to myself, were made

In reviewing the act, there are several questions and concerns that were brought to myself, were made very apparent, and I believe the senator addressed some of those earlier so I may be repetitive in some of the comments that I've got to make. But the definition of low and moderate income families in this act does nowhere come near what I know to be a low and moderate income family.

The income that I personally have makes me a very poor family in this town, when you are looking at income of a median income of \$17,000.00 in the state, and I had a figure of \$15,000.00 in Maricopa County, and I derived that out of the Inside Phoenix '79, which is a publication put out by the Republican Gazette in this town.

It comes a little bit closer to what actually Maricopa County and Pinal County families are so far as the median income goes. The \$17,000.00 figure that I -- that was --

1

3

4 5

6

7 8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21 -22

23

24

25

that I was made aware of by the senator earlier, of course puts that higher, I was hoping it would be lower.

The calculations that I came up with, and again the senator also calculated the same figures, but my calculations were at the \$15,000.00 level and even then it placed the -- this particular legislation, this particular financing program way beyond the ability of any low income families to really utilize it.

When you're looking --

THE CHAIR: That's really not a significant statement, when you think in terms of what the median really All it is is the mid -- is the mid dollar figure, has nothing to do with the norm. In fact, you can have one family with 2,000 and another one with 500,000 and if the mid figure is 17, it's 17, or the mid figure could be 15, could be 30,000, 25, so all it's saying is that's the mid figure.

A. Right.

THE CHAIR: And that does not indicate where the proportion of persons are concentrated. It's merely a mid -- a mid figure that's selected from a whole range --

Then this is where I need some clarification on the definition of low and moderate income families. definition is that -- is below the median income. low income families. Now, the moderate I'm sure comes in

3

1

to state that this legislation is for low income families is a farce.

between the 15 and wherever the other figure falls.

4

5

6

7

8

at the moderate, higher moderate income family to the middle income family. Now, I consider middle income 30 and above. Now, maybe the middle income family is 15 to 30. You know, it's all -- we can play with the figures here and there. But the intent of this legislation by the definition of low and moderate income familes does not meet

It's -- they can't use it. So maybe we're looking

9

10

11

I see as the low and moderate income families being

with my definitions and I quess that's where we differ.

12

above the median income which in this state is \$17,000.00.

13 14

Now, when you look at the percentage of families to

15

utilize this program, in a particular designated area under section 235, I believe is the 1479, is that the

16 17

section that's going to be designating the blight and

18

slum areas, that they can utilize 2.5 times the median

19

income, I mean a family that can earn darned near \$50,000.00,

20

what, 47, something like that, I would figure they can buy

21

a house anywhere in the State of Arizona. At the going

At least I could.

22

Now, when you're looking at a family outside those particular designated areas as being 1.15 over the

24

25

23

median income, which places them at about 18,000 to \$20,000.00

1

4

5 6

7

8 9

10

11 12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19

20 21

22

23 24

25

bracket, now they can still find housing. It is going to be hard, that is granted, but what I'm saying that these families are still a little better well off than the low income families, and the question that arises is, if a, families that are making between 20 to \$40,000.00 that this legislation is geared at, are having a hard time finding housing, what's happening to the other low income families?

That's the big question I have. What programs are being designated for those families?

We have a rental program, section 8, but those funds do not really -- are adequately funded to take care of that kind of problem, but again we're looking at rental.

The American dream that I understand is to own your own home, your own home, so these figures alarm me. understand the dilemma that we're facing and again the senator addressed it very well, the saying is if the people are having a hard time finding housing within those income brackets that are -- that the legislation addresses I find it very hard to see a legislation themselves to. or an act define low and moderate income families between 15 to \$40,000.00.

Now, I'm taking the low, that's under the median income. The other concerns that brings forth the incentive that is given to the families between the -- well, taking the median income of 17,000 multiplying that times two and

half times you're looking at, again the \$40,000.00 bracket, giving those families the incentive to move into the blight and slum areas, brings forth a concern that is happening in the eastern cities. Whereby the young professional families are going into the older areas, purchasing homes, rehabilitating them, at the same time they're displacing low income families that lived there before.

Again what happens to these families? There is no program to take those families out of that housing. What I see happening is that low income families are moving from bad house, bad housing to worse housing. Somewhere.

Because they can't afford anything else.

The other concern it brings to mind is if this incentive is provided and if the moderate income family begins taking advantage of it, we will soon see the inner city of Phoenix doing very well and the outer city of Phoenix having the slum and blight. Because you're not really eliminating the slum and blight, you're just replacing it, you're putting it somewhere else.

That's what I see happening.

The recommendations that I make to this committee and also to the housing finance review board, is that whomever utilizes this program, because I well know that we need to do something about financing of purchase of housing, because the going rate and even the HUD rate at 10% is way

above the means of a lot of families in this -- in the United States. But what I see and I recommend is that whoever utilizes these type of programs must be educated to let them know what they're getting into, and to make them understand what they are going to be signing.

And that goes for any education level. Any economic level.

The program that I deal with, the Chicanos Por La Causa, we have assisted families from the \$3,000.00 level to the \$50,000.00 level with problems in housing. Now, the difference in there is tremendous.

Now, we should never receive calls from a family making \$50,000.00 a year for assistance. Now, it's an extreme, granted, but we have received those calls. And these are from top executives in one of the major firms in this -- this state.

Now, when he needs help trying to find out what's going on with his mortgage, I mean, you know, the other families are having problems.

So, in closing I want to impress upon the committee and the board that there should be some program instituted to at least allow the opportunity for families to be educated as to the program, as to the legislation, as to the mortgage financing procedures, and as to what FHA is. We still hear far too many families say that FHA lend

2 3 4

them money. Nowhere they hear that, I never know. So these are the type of problems that families will have encountered and these are the type of problems that we need to address ourselves to, because the only way that any program will ever succeed is to make sure that family succeeds.

When the family succeeds in obtaining housing, retaining it, then the program is going to succeed. So we got to deal with the family first, then worry about the program.

At this point in time, again I thank you for inviting me and letting me voice my concerns, and I'm -- you know, any questions that you have, I'll be more than happy to answer.

THE CHAIR: I'm sure there will be some questions to address to Mr. Portillo.

Q. (By Ms. Bean) What I understand you're saying is that this bill does not do it, it's just another program which doesn't really meet the needs. Is that what you're saying in your view?

A Well, from what I've read in the bill, when you're looking at 1.15 above the median income, \$17,000.00, I thought it was lower, when you're looking at 2.5 above the median income, I mean what happens to the low families, low income families?

Q. What do you consider a low income family? Just from your experience?

- A From my experience? Anything under the median income.
- Q. Anything under 17,000?
- A (Witness nodding head affirmatively)

Now, again in Maricopa County according to Inside Phoenix, it's 15,000 so you place them in a much lower bracket.

Q. (By Mr. Pena) Let me point out what I think may be a misconception, that the median income is the maximum, it doesn't mean that only the \$17,000.00 income family will be eligible for housing. Now, if it's left up to the lending institutions, yes, they'll probably go that way, but there has to be community pressure, I believe, to make the \$10,000.00 and the \$12,000.00 income families eligible for these loans.

Let me point out also that the 1.5 and the 2.5 was foisted on the legislature by the City of Phoenix and the City of Tucson. We were talking about median income, maximum, that's what the legislature was talking about dealing with. But they came in with the idea in mind that they wanted to clear up slum and blighted areas and as you say, what you said is going to occur.

They will clean it up in one place and move it to someplace else. But that's the whole idea is that the

median as the bill talks about is the maximum income for families and not the statutory requirement that only that family can participate in IDA loans.

Let me ask you about -- now, I personally know that you have a lot of experience in counseling and the makeup of the -- what may be considered as a blighted and slum area by a lot of folks, and the vacancies of 235 homes, how many vacancies do you think we have right now?

A. At this point in time? I could allude to Mr. Evans a, probably a better figure but I can tell you that the disposition program of HUD has very little repossessions because of the market being so tremendous right now. The last public release that I saw from FHA I think had about four houses on it up for sale.

Their inventory right now is very, very low. Most of the housing that they -- that they do hold in inventory is in south Phoenix.

Q Now, as I understand the bill, it provides for acquisition of existing housing too, not just new homes. It also provides for improvements, loans to improve existing homes. Which do you believe would be a better program for, let's say the blighted and slum area, the acquisition of new properties, of new homes which is beyond the means of a lot of people, or using the low interest money to purchase existing homes which may not be necessarily as

expensive and perhaps some improvement money?

A Well, the latter two I think would benefit the, well, at least a little closer to the low income families. Of course, the construction of new housing, if it's not within the airport zone, there is some vacant properties in some of the blighted areas that we could build new housing along with the improvements and the rehab., those are very few in the City of Phoenix, our airport really does us a job so far as the low income families are concerned, the communities.

Because of that airport noise level, there is no federal funds available within that area. Which further deteriorates the area.

Now, I hope, and this is where I find the quirk, if you're saying that these monies are available to low and moderate income families but yet they need FHA insurance, low income families aren't going to qualify, they're not -- you know, they won't qualify for those types of programs. We've got them now, they don't qualify now. So it's -- you know, it's -- the intent is well, it's well taken, but there is no low income housing programs. And this bill does not meet the need.

Let me ask you this, there was made mention that these bonds are sold at lower interest rates which then the benefit is passed on to the mortgagor, the borrower, at maybe one

or two points below the market interest rate. Right now where would that put it? In my understanding it would probably put them about 8%, maybe 9%. Again with that interest rate, low income families can not afford the payments. You're still looking at about \$300.00 payments. That's the only question again I -- you know, I have is I realize that the bond will bring in cheaper interest rates but it's not low enough to benefit what this legislation, I assume, is intended.

MR. MONTEZ: And it's not high enough to benefit the builder.

A. Exactly.

MR. MONTEZ: From what I understand --

A. Exactly, won't benefit the lenders, I mean they can put their money elsewhere and make more money at it. So these are questions that are raised within the legislation, that I find the void in there. I don't know, I don't have the answer. I hope we come up with it soon, otherwise we're going to find \$50,000.00 income families living in blighted areas.

Any other questions?

Q (By Mr. Pena) Just one more. If this thing goes through, you know, IDA's begin to sell bonds and loans start being made, and if some of it happens to find its way down to the, you know, to the low, low income, ten, 12 to

15,000, would you -- do you believe that included in the IDA authority program, that there should be a continuing counseling service to service the -- to educate the people who are using this type of funding?

A. Definitely. You need it. If you don't educate families on what this money's for, how to pay it back, how to take care of domestic problems that arise, that will affect their ability to make those payments, it's going to go under. I mean it's happened with every other housing program that's gone before this program.

Then what happens is that the legislation is changed so drastically that it's just completely wiped out. I mean the pendulum just goes this way and then it goes this way, it never stops in the middle.

The reaction of the public when that reaction happens sways, you know, right and left. You never seem to find the happy medium. So you need the education process, you've got to have some type of affordable or allowable opportunity to the family to at least go somewhere and get their answers, and if they can't get them there, somebody that has the knowledge of how to ask those questions technically, professionally or whatever you want to call it, to get the answers.

We're not well liked in some circles and sometimes
maybe rightfully so. But we do get the family the information

they need. Through whatever vehicle it takes. And when families have the information, just as ourselves, we can make better decisions. And not decisions based on pressures and ignorance.

That's why when a head of household finds creditors knocking on the door, finds bill collectors and statements that we're going to be taking you to court, and all of these other pressures that are brought forth, along with family pressures, which can be some pretty bad pressures, they sometimes just give it up.

They say I don't need this. I don't need the house,
I don't need the lender, I don't need any of this. And I
can't take it. And we saw it happen.

THE CHAIR: Would you care to typify one of the success stories among the 20 homes built under section 235? Characterize, just select one.

A Okay. The one that has gone through the major problems that is still residing and they would not be there if there would not have been, and I'm not -- well, I guess I am patting ourselves on the back if there wouldn't be an agency such as Chicanos Por La Causa, but any HUD certified counsel program provides this type of information.

We have a family, the gentleman's making good money, but he had a major medical bill. His wife had open heart surgery. I mean all of a sudden he's got a bill of

\$20,000.00, hospital wants to collect. And you either pay me or you pay them or you pay them, but you don't have enough money to go around. If you do not pay the hospital, they will sue you. Where does that leave you?

If you don't pay the mortgage company they're going to repossess. If you don't pay the car bill, you know, electric bill, whatever other bills you have, they're going to turn them off, they're going to take this, they're going to take that.

These kinds of pressures a family can only take so much. They call us or call any of the counseling agencies, we will start talking to these families, we will try to identify assistance available to them, we are fortunate enough in this area that when this did happen, there was a new program that came into being under HUD which is the assignment program, and this family was able to keep their house because they were transferred, their mortgage was transferred over to HUD. Their payments were suspended, he then could pay off some of the hospital bill, could retain his electrical and gas bill turned on, could keep his vehicle to get back and forth to work, these kinds of pressures were relieved.

The person is now doing well, he has had some setbacks because the wife, from time to time, does have to be placed back into the hospital. So he does get behind on his

payments, but the pressure of losing his house and not being able to bring the wife home from the hospital to a house,

I mean can you imagine what that -- you know, does to a family?

The payments are only 168 or were 168, I think the payments now are about 175, if that family would have lost their house their payments would have gone up to \$300.00 anywhere else. So it's from bad to worse.

So you need this kind of information and assistance and at times, strong advocacy to make some entities understand what they're doing. Because they don't understand what they're doing. They just want to collect the money.

THE CHAIR: A very significant statement, I think was made when you alluded to the fact that neither does the legislation that we're discussing nor any other legislation actually consider relevantly the reality of the life of the poor. You really have to be a super poor, if I'm reading you correctly, in order to be successful in home ownership under the present legislation.

A See, what's interesting is legislation, again well intended, tries to assist families. But families that have never had that kind of assistance and never had that kind of opportunity, you know, if you don't educate them as to what the whole system is — they don't want it, they don't

need it. They've done well without it. They'll survive.

Q (By Ms. Watkins) Does the greater percentage of your counseling go into the families that have already are into problems through default or do you mostly get involved with families when they're actually looking for something to purchase or rent?

A. Major emphasis is default. We do have a prepurchase program. And I can tell you that if you educate families as to problems that may occur because we will have problems in our life, and you give them alternatives of how to handle those problems, and if nothing else an alternative of where to call, that's all they need.

You know, let's say what happens if you're making ten, \$15,000.00 a year, all of a sudden you're unemployed? You've never been to welfare, you've never been unemployed and had to collect an unemployment check, you don't even know where these offices are located. You've never been there. You don't even know who to call to find out where these services are available.

Lot of timesthe pride is hurt, but pride can be swallowed and -- for survival. So you sometimes have to give these families confidence because they just seen all their world crumple. I mean it's just, everything's going bad.

All you have to do is stir them a little bit and

they'll find themselves, they'll find one. It's a lot of red tape. I don't like to wait in lines for four to five hours in welfare beginning at 4:00 o'clock in the morning. To hopefully be able to get in and be interviewed to receive assistance. Hopefully. I don't like to wait in unemployment lines trying to collect a check, food stampslines, when a family is brought drastically into reality of being poor, it's rough.

- Q. Under this program in the house bill, you had said that under the prior program the annual certification was required. To your understanding would that still be required under this bill?
 - A. Under section 235?
 - Q Yes.

A. It's still required, yes, but I think a lot of families now understand what recertification is. Before they used to hear recertification they never recieved any documents. If they did receive the documents they never knew what they were for. If you don't get those documents within 30 days your payment's going to skyrocket to the maximum and they don't know why.

And then they get a call from the mortgage company saying instead of a \$100.00 you now owe me 180, pay up right now, or we're going to start foreclosure. They still don't understand why their payment went up.

We find the basic reason for that is because the services didn't know what section 235 program was either. The overall lending institutions didn't know about section 235, all they knew was they were going to lend money, they were going to make the market interest rate either from HUD or from the family, they're not going to lose out.

Real estate people never took the time to explain these type of programs to them, their, you know, selfinterest is — their only job is to get a contract signed by buyer and seller, they've done their job. Title and trust companies, they're there to comply with the contractual agreement, nothing to do with the regulations, rules and regulations under section 235. HUD, they are not equipped to go out there and deal with the families face to face. So these are the type of problems that we saw and when we brought this to HUD's attention, between the years of '71 to '73, they turned around and certified us to look into it.

We got their support, which is great. Because that gave us a little more clout. And we assisted a few more families.

MS. WATKINS: Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Any other questions of Mr. Portillo?

Q (By Mr. Pena) Let me just ask clarification, on your question, was your question that the loans under this

1 bill would require certification annually? 2 Yes, that was the question. 3 Oh, I'm sorry, I misunderstood. No, under this bill 4 I don't see any certification mentioned. 5 (By Ms. Bean) Two-three-five still requires it? 6 A. Yes. 7 (By Mr. Montez) I just have one comment, Mr. 8 Chairman, in your experience, Mr. Portillo, is there any-9 thing that comes close in the private sector, I'm talking 10 about lending institutions or anything whatsoever that 11 you've heard of in any attempts to assist medium and -- or 12 moderate and low income people in programs such as this 13 legislation calls for? Is there anything in the private 14 sector that comes --15 Well, it's a mixture of the private sector and public. 16 In this legislation? 17 Oh, in this legislation? No. Not in this legis-18 lation. 19 (By Mr. Pena) That brings up another question. 0. 20 Red lining. Do you agree that it exists? 21 A. (Witness nodding head affirmatively) -22 Q. What would this bill do to red lining, in your 23 opinion? 24 I really don't know. I didn't view the bill in that A. 25 It may again just replace it. It's going to allow,

you know, the 2.5 income families into certain areas because they're going to be able to afford it, but the family moving out they're going to move elsewhere and again you know, just moving from one area to another area. You know. I really didn't read the bill to try and derive any red lining from it. Maybe I'll read it again and let you know.

THE CHAIR: Any other questions by the committee?

If not, we certainly want to thank you, Mr. Portillo.--

A. Thank you.

THE CHAIR: -- for coming before us and sharing with us your experiences as related to housing for the poor.

A. Thank you very much.

THE CHAIR: And women.

We have a break scheduled now and we will convene near 11:00 o'clock.

(Short recess)

Ms. Opal Ellis, who is the Assistant Director of the Department of Housing and Urban Redevelopment in the City of Pheonix, and with her is Mr. Bob Vanosky, who is from the firm of Rauscher, Pierce and Refsnes, who is available to answer certain types of questions that may be directed at Ms. Ellis.

I might say I've known Ms. Ellis practically all of my life. We were in high school together. I was a senior when she was a freshman, however. So it's certainly my pleasure, if I remember correctly she appeared before this group about nine years ago on another issue.

> MS. ELLIS: Yes.

THE CHAIR: So welcome, Ms. Ellis and Mr. Vanosky. We'd be interested in the Phoenix Department of Housing and Urban Development, with particular focus on minorities and women.

MS. OPAL ELLIS

(By Ms. Ellis) For general background you may recall, those of you who are not familiar with the City of Phoenix, its housing department is less than three years We've had the conventional public housing authority which was converted into a division and within the last few years, several functions have been combined to create the Department of Housing for the City of Phoenix.

That is adding the old housing services division to the neighborhood development program, which was a CDBG funded program, that's the community development block grant fund from the department of housing, urban development, into a rather massive department.

24

25

back to about 1941 where the first construction of conventional units occurred in principally three locations, and that would be two in southwest Phoenix and one in northeast Phoenix. That was a combined number of units of 602, and since conventional public housing generally as operated in the City of Phoenix is for the purpose of low and moderate income persons, and if we can all agree that most low and moderate income persons are of minorities, basically the kinds of housing I will be talking about will be that which is provided for low and moderate income persons with maybe one minor exception, which would be our urban homestead program, which I will discuss with you also.

Currently in addition to the original three conventional public housing projects of 620 units, in '51 and '52 we constructed 485 more units, basically in low and moderate income housings.

These were additions to units between Seventh Avenue and 11th Avenue in southwest Phoenix, between Third Avenue and Fifth Avenue in southwest Phoenix, between 20th Street and 16th Street in the Roosevelt Street area. All now low and moderate income areas.

In 1961, through '62, we constructed 490 more units, both of, or all of these units were in central Phoenix or southwest Phoenix. That's a total of 1,575 conventional units

being operated by the City of Phoenix.

Recently, within the last two or three years, rather, the City of Phoenix has picked up low and moderate income housing that was constructed by nonprofit agencies, one of those of course is located in southwest Phoenix, south of the river, some of the first units the City of Phoenix has done south of Rio Salada and that was to pick up Foothills Villa on the corner of Seventh Avenue between Southern and Baseline, 200 units that are now under contract for rehabilitation and will be occupied by low and moderate income persons.

I'm not sure that the committee is aware of it, I might share with them at this point as we turn our attention to not only low and moderate income persons but females, that most of our conventional units are occupied in most of the areas by one-parent families, female heads of household.

We've just picked up an additional 50 units, one, 15 in Maryvale, 35 in south Phoenix for dispersed housing, that's 250 units of housing being picked up by the City of Phoenix and rehabilitated for the use of low and moderate income persons.

Additionally we have the section 23 leased housing, 390 units of scattered site housing, a unit in Maryvale of 108 units, Washington Manor in central-east Phoenix of 112 units, that's a total of 610 section 23 leased housing,

primarily for the elderly.

There are an additional set of units of about 96 in central-east Phoenix which brings a total of about 706 units of section 23 leased housing.

We operate a section 8 leased housing program, we have 116 units in Sunny Slope, these units are for the elderly, we have 1,137 allocations for dispersed housing under section 8, subsidized leasing, we have Filmore (Phonetic).er

Gardens under construction, 120 units, and Sunland Villa authorized but not constructed, 110 units, that's 1,493 units of section 8 leased housing.

In addition to that housing which is operated by that branch of our department that operates conventional housing programs we have, through the use of community development block grant funds, housing rehabilitation programs operating in four census tracks with major emphasis on target area B which is that area which reaches from Seventh Avenue, 24th Street, Broadway to Southern,

The second interest point is that area between

Seventh -- Central Avenue and 16th Street, Alice to Hatcher,

it's a small target area of low and moderate income

persons residing in Sunny Slope.

The major emphasis in that program is the rehabilitation of single family structures, the thrust of the program is to stabilize and cease the deterioration of low and moderate

income neighborhoods.

Currently in target area B, which is that area south of the Rio Salada between Broadway and Southern we are operating an urban homestead program. This is a program where the City of Phoenix obtains from HUD certain units that have been repossessed and they are turned over to the City of Phoenix, the housing units are rehabilitated and turned over to applicants of low and moderate income, who, after a year of -- a year's lease, are allowed to buy the house for costs to the city to rehabilitate the structure.

We have currently 110 of those units, 60 of them are occupied, the remainder are under rehabilitation.

Of the occupancy of these units, fully 36% of them are females, female heads of household, we have acceptable in

of one-parent households, people who earn nominal monies may ever hope to have any kind of home unless you -- that's basically a summary of the kinds of activities being conducted in the City of Phoenix.

The major thrust at this point is the stabilization of structures and the provision of housing resources for the elderly.

THE CHAIR: Can you, in a summary statement, give us those figures again, Opal, totals --

A I'll be glad to provide them in a written form, if

you would prefer, unless you would just like to have me repeat them.

THE CHAIR: Well, there may be some questions that persons will have, and by a reaffirmation of them, it may sharpen their focus.

A All right, conventional public housing, built and occupied between 1940, 1941 --

THE CHAIR: Not the dates, just the total figures.

A Okay, of all of the units in that category, 1,576 units of conventional housing, 249 units of acquired rehab. housing, 610 units of section 23 leased housing, section 8 leased housing, 1,493 units. That's about a total of all of them of 4,178.

This does not include the HUD ten units of urban homestead housing or any other housing activity or privately owned structures of low and moderate income persons.

THE CHAIR: And you indicated your major thrust was the stabilization of structures, you indicated ---

A Our major thrust in today's market, and at this time having a tool to provide new construction for our major funding for many of the housing programs are through community development block grant funds, these funds are not used for new construction unless it is necessary to provide housing of last resort and that's usually determined

if you are dislocating persons and can not find existing housing and must go to housing of last resort.

So, the thrust of the department is to try to stabilize structures that are deemed feasible for rehabilitation, that is to stop deterioration in neighborhoods experiencing blight.

This is principally done to owner occupied units.

THE CHAIR: Okay, are there any questions that any member of the committee has?

MR. PENA: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRE: Sure.

Q (By Mr. Pena) In these homes that the city has acquired from HUD, rehabit and sold to low and moderate income people, what is low income and what is moderate income used in qualifying for the purchase?

A. It's a -- it has to do with percentage of the maximum income for the county. That's usually established by some records that we obtain from the department of economic security. When I say low, income for occupancy of urban homestead, I guess I really left out some points.

First, the applicant is screened to insure that they have sufficient income to maintain the properties after ownership. It isn't a matter of just establishing that the person needs a home and then they are sort of put into a rehabled structure. They go through a rather nominal screening

process to ascertain their stability with employment.

Credit is not generally looked at very strongly because we know most lower income persons have experienced some credit problems. So a family of four making about \$8,000.00 a year could qualify for an urban homestead unit.

The nationally operated program is a little different from the way Phoenix has run it's program in that they have allowed persons of considerably higher income, as high as \$28,000.00, but that is when you turn the structure over to a family immediately and they use their own resources to rehabilitate the program.

It was thought initially in Phoenix that the thought of sweat equity sounded good and was sort of great rhetoric but we had found that lending institutions in south Phoenix had not been that ready to provide the resources for the average family to rehabilitate the structure.

So Phoenix wrote into its program that the city would assume the responsibility for the rehabilitation of the structure and then turn it over and assist a family in finding a mortgager that would then assume the mortgage for them.

- Q. Does the city have any subsidies, you know, utilities, taxes --
 - A. For that --

1 -- to assist --2 -- that program --3 -- that family, yes. 4 Α. During the year that they're in the structure 5 which is a prescreening process to decide whether or not the 6 family can indeed maintain the single family structure 7 or home ownership, the family is expected to assume the 8 responsibility for the utilities and for the maintenance 9 of the property. Obviously no tax problems because the 10 house at that time is still in the ownership of the City 11 of Phoenix and is off the tax roles. 12 At the time we dispose of the property to the 13 potential homeowner he, of course, assumes a tax liability, 14 but they are provided with counseling and they are made 15 very much aware, since most of these structures are in 16 the Roosevelt School District area, that there is -- the 17 taxes in Roosevelt are rather high and a part of the 18 program is letting many of the applicants know that, con-19 cerned as we are, they are not quite ready for ownership 20 because of the amount of income and on account of the 21 responsibility for maintaining a home. 22 Q. Has Phoenix begun to develop an IDA authority for 23 housing? 24 A. No. 25 Q. No?

A. No.

- Q. No plans at all to do it?
- A Well, I can't say that there aren't any plans ahead, although there's some state legislation, there has not been sufficient national legislation for the City of Phoenix to assume the position of what direction it wants it to be.

The only outside kind of funding mechanism that the City of Phoenix has ever used is in the construction of the Washington Manor in which we developed a nonprofit agency which was a financing mechanism for that unit.

Q I really don't understand quite -THE CHAIR: Could he address himself to the state
legislation?

MR. ROBERT VANOSKY

- A. (By Mr. Vanosky) Would you like to hear us on that?

 THE CHAIR: And the City of Phoenix plan?
- A. Surely. Let me add a little bit to what Opal's just said also. The City of Phoenix is in communication with our firm quite often on a lot of things, including the state legislation. They have discussed a number of things including the creation of an IDA should it be beneficial to do that, so I think as Opal pointed out, they have not done

it as of yet nor probably made the decision to do it as of yet but they certainly have talked about doing that sort The state legislation actually was passed a of a thing. couple years ago, which will allow for the financing or outside financing, tax exempt financing of, or the providing of tax exempt dollars for single family mortgages. and moderate income individuals.

The legislation as it was originally enacted, had some problems. And I think the problems primarily stemmed from the fact that many people felt that there was too broad a discretion left at the hands of the industrial development authorities to allow it to carry forward.

It was a rather felt that the legislature should give some sort of quidelines to the industrial development authorities so they would know better what the state wanted to do with the legislation.

They went back to the next session of the legislature and the City of Phoenix was very active with that legislative session in cleaning up, let's say, or providing a little bit better legislation than what was originally enacted. And the legislation, in our opinion and I think in everybody's opinion who was involved in the final legislation, was very good legislation. It allowed for an individual or a family which would qualify under the income limits set in that legislation which was 115 times median income as set

by the department of economic security, to qualify for these types of loans. It also set the type of entity which could issue these bonds or originate these programs and it limited to only 14. All the counties including the City of Phoenix and the City of Tucson. The City of Tucson had an industrial development authority, the City of Phoenix was just talking about one at that time.

As I mentioned, the program or the legislation was passed, it was signed by the governor and it became law. One of the things that happened during the interim period or while the legislation was in process, was the United States Congress took up the question of single family mortgage subsidy bonds and that's what they're typically called, and they felt that since all the states were going their own way as far as setting what type of income limits could be available to eligible mortgagors, and how much a house would cost and how much money a state could issue, that this conceivably could be disruptive to the programs, the cities were trying to enact, and also to the tax exempt mortgage bond market, the tax exempt market in the country, so they decided to undertake a study and really try to set the rules for everybody in the country.

So as of, I believe the date was April 25, 1979, they said that any program which was not in the process, single family mortgage program which was not in the process as

of that date could no longer proceed under their own guidelines, that they would have to come under whatever the federal legislation saidend.

And the federal legislation didn't say anything at that time. Because there wasn't any. It was a bill that was meant to be retroactive back to April 25, 1979. The bill is now on the house floor and it's in the senate, it's — it's been, a similar bill has been in the senate also. It's being talked about now, it's still proposed, it hasn't been passed, it's still got the provision in it which makes it retroactive if passed back to April 25th, so for all practical purposes it pretty much ties the hands of any issuer who has not had a program on line prior to April 25th.

That's one of the reasons I think the City of Phoenix has not chugged forward and just created an industrial development; authority and undertaken a program, because there really is, there are no guidelines as of right now. They didn't have a program in the mill prior to April 25th, and there's nothing they can do until they find out what the federal ground rules are going to be for these types of programs.

THE CHAIR: Anyone have any other questions they want to direct to Ms. Ellis?

Q. (By Ms. Watkins) The federal guidelines, is that what we were discussing earlier as the Ullman legislation?

A. That is what it is.

Q So then, if that is passed, then this House Bill 2304 would be subject to the guidelines, the exact parameters of the Ullman legislation?

A. Right. Whatever we have passed in our legislature will be overridden and we'll have to not only live with our state legislation, but if the federal legislation is more restrictive, which I can assure you it is, we'll have to live with those lesser provisions.

So what we're trying to do now is determine what the federal government is going to end up with on their program and then find out whether that program's workable when they're done with it. Our program was very workable, as a matter of fact there are a couple of programs proceeding, two or three programs proceeding in the state right now, not in Maricopa County, which will provide low interest rate mortgage money to people in other counties, but Maricopa does not have a program, to my knowledge.

Those other programs will proceed under the state law which was passed in this last legislative session, any future subsequent programs are going to have to come under what the Ullman legislation determines to be the guidelines.

MS. WATKINS: Thank you.

Q (By Ms. Bean) Ms. Ellis, with what the City of Phoenix is doing now, the total figures you gave us and the kinds of opportunities and programs which you're providing, what kind of an impact is that having on needs and problems as they exist now? Is this a relatively minimal effort, is it — does it meet half the need? What would be your personal assessment?

A (By Ms. Ellis) We certainly don't begin to meet the needs. I think staff estimates say that there are over 10,000 elderly who need housing that we have no plans, no funds to house, in the areas in which we are carrying on stabilization activities we find that, in most of the areas, fully 30 to 40% of the structures are substandard, there are not sufficient funds to impact on those houses and of course the only positive impact on the structures which is substandard beyond rehabiliation is to acquire it and relocate the family in the standard house.

No, I don't believe that anyone from the City of Phoenix could say that we're doing anything than making almost a -- maybe maximum effort with minimal impact, because the seriousness of the problem.

MS. BEAN: Thank you.

Q. (By the Chair) Would you care to, Opal Ellis, to articulate what the policy stance of the city is as it relates to this domain? Do they feel that it's their

responsibility to do so, do they aggressively feel a responsibility to pursue sources of funds or -- what is the stance, generally?

- A. I would think that my assessment of the official stance of the City of Phoenix is to pursue all funds outside of the City of Phoenix's general funds to participate in any kind of program that would impact on our need for housing units in Phoenix.
- Q. (By Ms. Watkins) As you perceive it at this time, what do you feel the house bill will do for minorities and women as it's written at the current time?
 - A. How do I perceive it helping minorities and women?
 - Q. Yes.
- A If we were to reconcile any differences with federal legislation, well, if we were ready to run?
 - Q. Yes.
- A I would think one of the first impacts it would have would be to allow this mechanism to turn over even our urban homestead units faster, because it would remove fear or whatever it is that keeps lending institutions from readily wanting to pick up even small mortgages that are anticipated as being mortgages for females, particularly of child bearing ages. And low and moderate income persons.

It would also allow us to work out programs of new construction on the housing of last resort because we could

get the funding mechanism. It certainly would make an impact on the number of people who are ill-housed who could then be in decent and sanitary structures to the degree, of course, as I, always contingent upon the attitude of whatever council is in power, as opposed to staff desire.

MS. WATKINS: Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Are there any other questions by any member of the panel of Ms. Ellis?

- Q. (By Mr. Pena) Just one for my own information, does the Phoenix Department of Housing and Urban Development have a citizens advisory committee?
- A Yes, as a matter of fact I think there are seven, we have, of course, the Phoenix Housing Commission, we have the tenant advisory bodies that operate in the conventional housing areas, we have an advisory body in the Sunny Slope area for programs funded in that area and an advisory body in the target area B.

I happen to know it's seven because somebody just shared that with me this week, those are the only ones I can recall of this week but someone shared with me that there were seven.

Oh, and of course it's the downtown advisory committee for the target area A, which is a part of the old Washington NDP. Which the city started in 1972.

Q (By the Chair) Ms. Ellis, am I correct in thinking

1

that perhaps a quarter of the available housing was actually constructed in the early '50's?

3

I would say that --

a. Or early '60's?

5 6

A. -- between -- the greatest impact of new housing I think was in the '50's.

7 8

In the '50's. And since that time, then, there's

9

been relatively little new construction? A. Of the conventional housing. The thrust in

10

much of HUD's funding now is to move away from what we've

11 12

known as these massive, multifamily buildings that created such a disaster such as Poriago (Phonetic)

13

in St. Louis and to move people into neighborhoods with

14

other members of the community with this, with a feeling

15 16

that it's a better atmosphere, living environment for the family, if they've just absorbed in the community, and that

17

18

was the thrust of scattered site housing.

19 those and they are absorbed and you might be interested in

20

knowing that being assigned to one of our local neighborhoods

You notice we talk about, I think over a 1,000 of

21

and having to get the property ownership of certain structures

22 23

ten units of scattered site housing that housed persons who

and the occupancy, I was startled to find that there were

24

would generally have been in conventional public housing

25

and you could tell no difference between their structure and

the rest of the neighborhood's, and that's the thrust nowadays to absorb low and moderate income housing into traditional neighborhoods as opposed to isolating them on large sites and putting people with the same social and economic problems within small areas.

- Q. Is there legislation on the horizon or legislation that your department is pursuing that potentially has implications for a possibility for expanding your thrust?
- A Our thrust does not necessarily require all legislation, it simply requires the availability of funds.

 Many of the housing — the federally funded programs require
 the involvement of the private market in terms of assisting
 in the development of housing. And I must say until within
 the last three years, there just hasn't been a run to provide housing for low and moderate income since the rape of
 the 235, which in the opinion of many staff people was
 certainly a ripoff of the low and moderate income persons
 and the federal government.

And those of you who had the opportunity to tour some of the 235 housing and the disasters that happened to many of the families could probably attest to that also.

The quality of the building was, left something to be desired.

Q Is there any selfcorrect or correcting legislation that's on the horizon or that has been passed since then?

I take it if I can read you correctly, that it does not appear that there will be private investment in low income housing without some type of federal support to compensate for the margin of potential profit?

-22

A Right, and that mechanism now exists, it just doesn't seem to be, and perhaps it's because we're in a new growth area where there's money to be made in new development, new construction, without the use of subsidy.

We are not at the bottom of the barrel, there are activities going on which, of private persons acquiring existing buildings because, of course, the cost of new construction in Phoenix, an example would be the Westward Ho, which is now proposed to be a subsidized, program that would be subsidized housing for the elderly.

The problem we're having now with the subsidies is that our local community market rent has become so insane that the amount of subsidy that is allowed by the federal government will not allow anyone to construct any housing, and make it available for low and moderate income persons and when the subsidy level is raised, and that's usually a minute increase, meanwhile locally the market goes crazy again and then there's that gap and we continue to have problems finding such persons who are being able to provide this kind of housing.

And an additional problem we have is that some of the

federal legislation that comes down, wantsthe private developer to enter into a 15-year lease with an agreement that the rents won't do thus and so and in a market like Phoenix it's going to be very difficult to get a property owner to agree to any kind of 15-year lease with ceiling rents when he has the opportunity on the open market to, frankly, make a killing. It's just that kind of market in Phoenix right now.

Makes it very difficult to provide housing for low and moderate income person, even through a subsidy.

- Q Is that going to get worse in your judgment?
- A Probably quite a while before it gets better, until Phoenix levels out in terms of its new construction and influx of new people, and all the planning figures I've seen says this isn't going to happen, I think until about 2000 or we're supposed to have a million people within the City of Phoenix or two million, so it looks bleak, frankly, for low and moderate income persons, and those people who are just a tad above moderate income are finding it most difficult for them to have home ownership.

market. It's not unusual for those of us who have to deal with comparables to find houses that were acquired less than five years ago for eight to ten, \$15,000.00, now on the market at \$32,000.00. Totally out of the reach

of the average low and moderate income, employed couple.

In many cases both members of the family working, simply can not get financing for it.

- Q. Does the City of Phoenix have advanced: planning:
 groups that develop alternatives scenarios and implications?
- A. We, I think the closest to that you'd say that
 Phoenix has is a combination of members of the housing
 department, the planning staff and the CDBG staff, we've
 formed a team to talk about not only the impact of housing
 for low and moderate income but the housing needs for the
 entire City of Phoenix.
- Q (By Mr. Vanosky) I might be able to add something to that also. As I mentioned earlier, the department meets with our firm fairly regularly to discuss alternatives to these types of problems, what can be done and what can't be done any more, and we have been over the proposed legislation, the Ullman legislation, with them, and we believe that if it stands as it as we're reading it now, that there are probably a couple of areas we can pursue.

And I know they are looking at these areas very seriously now, both the multifamily side and the single family side, single family mortgages and multifamily complexes and they think that there's — there are possibilities in this area, if the legislation isn't changed detrimentally.

Q. (By the Chair) Let me ask the lady a question.

Ms. Ellis, I've noticed the area between Central

Avenue and 16th Street, Van Buren to Thomas Road, in and

around Samaritan Health Services, and the depreciating

character of that. Can you force a relationship between that

area and your programs? Is there anything striking about -
A. (By Ms. Ellis) Only that it is an area that our

planning department provided us some information on prior

planning department provided us some information on prior to the council selection of the target areas that I mentioned to you earlier. There were so many factors there and the only funds available at this time to impact on the area were the CDBG funds, and since they require us to be able to make a visible impact within three years, and because the council's present policy is to avoid the massive acquisition of property and dislocation of people, when viewed against the areas that also needed services we declined to go into that.

So that's shown in our whole planning thrust as a sort of a portion of target area C, one the apparent wishy-washiness in terms of what was going to ultimately happen to that land that had been acquired by the state, much of the property in there was found to be tenant occupied and still belonging to the state, the stability of that neighborhood had been seriously impacted.

Additionally, we did think in terms of some provision

of multifamily housing for elderly and I think most of you who have been keeping up with it found that we either. found another grave of the Hohokam.....or some other group and that's been halted until we find out what historical significance that area has.

But near that general area we do have some community development block grant funds and that's in an area between Seventh Street and 16th Street, McDowell Road to Virginia. There is a housing program operated in there called the Neighborhood Housing Services where local lenders in the City of Phoenix and a nonprofit group joined forces to provide high risk loans to persons who reside in that area.

But that sort of skips over the area you delineated, and the Booker T. Washington Neighborhood Development Program only goes to the alley south of Van Buren, so that's sort of a limbo area that has not been addressed by us at this time.

THE CHAIR: Any other questions that any member of the panel wish to address to Ms. Ellis?

If not, thank you very kindly.

Is Mr. Cederlof in the audience?

Will you come forward, sir, please?

MR. CEDERLOF: Dr. Warren, I have some things that
I would like to stick up, can I stick those behind you there?

THE CH

THE CHAIR: Sure, and then we can move.

MR. CEDERLOF: You can deduct my preparation from my time, Dr. Warren.

THE CHAIR: No problem.

MR. CEDERLOF: Because I think our purposes are better served if we can see things.

THE CHAIR: Okay, for the record, we have with us, and he'll be the next presenter, Mr. Clark Cederlof, who is Executive Vice President for Western Savings and Loan Association, and he will be filling in for Mr. John D. Driggs, Vice Chairman of the Board of Western Savings and Loan Association.

And Mr. Cederlof will make a presentation on some of the housing programs which he's been associated with.

MR. CLARK CEDERLOF

A. (By Mr. Cederlof) Very good, thank you very much.

I'm delighted to be here, and visit with the commission this morning.

By way of where we're headed I'd like to begin with a few introductory remarks and then talk about some individual programs, refer to the maps that outline those programs, and sort of discuss them as we go, and then show

1

3 4

5

6

7 8

9

10

11

12 13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20 21

22

23

24

25

some slides of things that we've been involved in and that have been happening in the community.

And I think that will give us a little broader understanding, and then, of course, I'm open to any questions which the panel may wish to address.

Let me start by saying our early involvement, I suppose in the housing question in Phoenix with respect to urban and inner city areas and so forth, came about several years ago when I was a part of a panel who decided to work with the home loan bank in putting together the neighborhood housing services. And I note that the lady just prior talked a little bit about that.

I was part of a steering committee which put that together. We got the financial institutions in the community to contribute money to pay for a full time director, also to agree to take on, in their portfolio, certain loans that didn't otherwise qualify, and so on.

After that was put together, then there was a permanent board of directors elected and the steering committee was disbanded. That group has been operating for some time now, they have a designated area within which they are operating, and it's largely a result of a working relationship between the financial institutions, private enterprise, if you will, contractors, and the City of Phoenix.

This area is basically outlined on this map up here,

it will be easiest for us to understand where we are and to those of you in the back, it's a long ways away, but in all events, this is the area which was outlined earlier, this is North Phoenix High School and so we're at Seventh Street and 16th Street, and just south of North Phoenix High School and Good Samaritan: Hospital and McDowell Road here.

This is called the NHS area and it's an area which is sort of designated as being transitional, that is to say there are many homes that are well kept and well maintained and there are other homes that are sort of middle of the road and then there are some homes that need some attention.

And so this area was designated by NHS as an area that they would target and do something with. Their thrust was in part to get involved in rehabilitating those houses that needed it, provide some financing incentives for people to paint, fix up their homes and so forth.

Western Savings took a look at it and said, well, maybe there's something else that can be done in that area. In surveying the area we determined that there was in fact a number of vacant lots that had been there for years and had never had a home on, there were a few vacant lots that had had houses on that had been torn down. So we determined why don't we see what we can do by buying lots and putting together some kind of a program and build new houses and

see if that wouldn't stimulate an area that hasn't had a new dwelling built for, oh, probably 25 or 30 years? And so that was the thrust of our campaign in this particular area.

We took our best people and just went down and started to knock on doors and find out who owned lots and so forth, we had a, frankly, a difficult time buying lots because the ownership is all over the country and we dealt with marine privates in Quantico and retired people in Hawaii and it was an interesting program but we managed to get some lots together and have built homes in that area.

To date we have -- we'we built them in groups, we started out with six homes, we had John F. Long, who's been a customer of ours and a friend of the city's for many years, work with us and John agreed that his company would build the houses and -- for us, Western Savings would own the lots, would contract with him to build the houses then Western Savings would be the sales agent and we would sell them.

So Mr. Long came in with his crews and we started out firstly with a group of six homes, there was quite a bit of interest in those homes, some of you may recall that we had a lottery to determine who would get those homes, we had 130 interested people in buying six houses. So we had a lottery down at city hall one afternoon and drew names

and started calling people on the basis of the lottery and ultimately sold those six homes.

I must say that we -- that the first six people didn't get the homes, it took most of the 100 names to get the six homes. Now, that isn't to say that the people didn't qualify, that's to say that there were a number of investors and we were unwilling to sell to investors.

We simply said you must be going to live in the house. And sometimes that's a little bit of a tough screening process because we found out people who live in \$80,000.00 houses would tell us they'd like to live there, and we simply didn't believe them so we didn't give them an opportunity to buy the house.

But those houses sold, then, for 28, \$29,000.00. We then built another group of seven, those houses are all sold with one exception, and they!re occupied.

We have another group of seven or eight lots, depending on how we can divide up a couple of lots in there, and the construction on those is scheduled to start right away so we have been involved in lots within that area, 20, 21 lots.

It's been, from our point of view, successful, we have purchased almost all the lots that are in that designated area that are buyable in the sense that very often we find that people just will not sell for any price or for

any reason, and -- but I think that it has had an impact in the area, we're comfortable with it, it's -- it suggests that things can be done between various segments of the private system and the public. The City of Phoenix was very helpful to us in working with things like sewer hookups, cleaning off lots in advance, working with us on cutting red tape in terms of building permits, lot setbacks, other things.

You can imagine those lots in the area are very narrow, and you can't always get a house that's being built today on that lot with the setbacks that are standard. If you redesign the house the price goes up five or \$6,000.00 and you don't want to do that, so the city worked with us in these kinds of areas and were very helpful to us.

So we have been quite comfortable with our effort there and I plan to continue so long as we can get groups of lots in some number that we can efficiently go in there and throw up five or six or eight houses as the case may be.

The NHS area as such was not, I mean the NHS people were not involved with us extensively in this effort. It was largely ourselves, John Long and the city that put the program together. The NHS has been concentrating largely on rehabilitation and paintup and fixup and that sort of thing but we thought this was an approach that we could

afford to get into, and do something for that neighborhood and I think from the pictures you! Il see that it's been largely successful.

At the same time, we've been involved in some other areas, we're involved in the NDP area, which is a very small little square, south of Van Buren between Ninth. Street and 11th Street. This is an area that's in one of the city's what was the term, the lady used, designated areas of some time --

THE CHAIR: Neighborhood development?

A. Yes, it's neighborhood development but it's some kind of an area that the city has designated for rehabilitation. In the past it was covered with slum housing. Very poor dilapidated housing and they have gone in, the city went in and took those houses off, buldozed them off, cleaned the land off, put a street in and a couple of cul-de-sacs, and said now let's do something with it.

So Western Savings has agreed to buy those lots from the city, there are, there's room for 23 lots. Now, originally it was suggested by the city that it -- that it have high density housing, by that I mean instead of 23 lots, maybe 30 or 32 or 35 on a rather dense program. We worked with the city, feeling that first of all the construction costs, when you start to custom design, even though you get higher density, the cost per unit just go

out of sight so we're working with, again John Long in this area, where we found it necessary to put in a private street which the city has agreed to maintain, where it's -- we're concerned a little bit about the area, we're going to have to be very careful with it there, the area in terms of vandalism, crime and so forth, is -- has a higher risk than the NHS area. However it is close to some very good things that are going on within our community.

It's just east of our community, community buildings, maybe I can just point this out to the committee. This is a map that is older than the area. This shows what is called, we call it Washington Plaza, that's our buzz word around the office, these show the cul-de-sacs. The buildings were still here when this photo was taken. We're developing this part right here. There are some homes going in now in this area which has been put in and is being developed by someone else.

You'll recall that Washington Manor, which is -- has been built here for the elderly, you've got Civic Plaza, the Rawson (Phonetic) House over here, you've got Newton's Prime Rib just to locate yourself, right here, Monroe School, multifamily units in here, there are additional dwellings in here that need to come out and I think that's in the city's plan to get them taken out and also over in here where they intend at some point to develop family units.

Washington Street here and industrial park is being set aside here and there is some activity down in here. So really, you're in an area where you have over at the city high employment, lots of places for people to work, you've got the Van Buren Street with its motels and businesses, so forth, for people to work, an industrial park going in for people to work, you've got all the development along Washington a little further out and so forth.

So, there are some things to really be said for that, so we're going in that, going to build 23 houses there, Mr. Long's going to build them. We have arranged in this case, however, to be involved with the rest of our industry, the savings and loan industry. Western Savings, in order to make this thing work smoothly, is buying the land from the city and we will finance and put up, get the houses put up.

Our sister institutions, First Federal, Southwest Savings, Greater Arizona and so forth, are going to be involved in the end loans to the buyers of the property. So it's an industry effort, under what we call the urban affairs committee and I'm chairman of that committee for our Savings and Loan League of Arizona, and the urban affairs committee is really the sponsor of this effort, and so we are hopeful of having houses started right away.

I suppose I must say that we have been hopeful of

having them started earlier but working through all the problems with the city has held us up some. Just because we've had to change some things that were there, we felt we had to change some concepts, we had to realign, in order to make the -- the platting that we proposed work, we have to put in the private street between the two cul-desacs and we're working through the city in getting that done and there are some hearings in fact scheduled next week.

So we should be in that right away, and I think that will be an outstanding effort.

There is a wall around the project now, if you've been by there for any reason, and it's been broken down in a place or two and painted up a little bit, but I think that -- once we get the area up.

The city, by the way, has some funds that contribute to this project which will be very important in terms of landscaping and so forth. The city has some funds set aside as a result of this through their government, through the government involvement in the clearing of the land and so forth, which they will use to put in landscaping and so it will be richly landscaped and should be a very nice project.

So we're excited about that and proceeding along and have our sales agreement pretty well ironed out with the city.

We got involved, thirdly, in a project down on

21st Street and Broadway, 22nd Street and Broadway, we went down here and looked around and said here's an area that maybe we can do something.

There are some -- does anyone have any question on this particular little chart before we pull it off, any member of the committee?

We decided to get involved in perhaps another kind of area which was -- has proved interesting to us, we went down and designated an area in south Phoenix, this is Broadway and 21st -- 21st Street and 22nd I think here, -- went down and looked around this area to see what we might be able to do. This is just as Western Savings now, say what can we do to maybe make a contribution in this part of our community?

We were encouraged a little bit by the fact that there's a school and there's Tanner Gardens which is a new elderly program, subsidized program for people to live.

24th Street is close to the airport and so forth, or nearby and we thought maybe there was something we can do here,

Julian School here.

We went in and bought some lots with the intention of building houses on the lots. However, we are currently a little bit on hold, these are the designated lots we've bought. We're currently on hold. There are a number of homes in the area that are boarded up and abandoned and the

city, at the time we were working with them very closely now, in order to make this situation work, we felt we had to get them involved with us and of course they are most anxious because it's in one of their projected areas for development. And so we talked to them about things like, perhaps additional police patrols and so forth to protect our houses while they're getting built, we were concerned about the boarded up houses and we said to ourselves, what happens to us if we build new homes, yet a new home here and you got a boarded up house here?

And so we got, we talked to them, with them in some additional depth about the program for those boarded up homes, and they had a plan whereby they had some monies that they could use to put two and 3% mortgages, interest rates on mortgages if people would buy those houses for an amount that was substantially less than we could build new houses.

We researched the resale of homes in the area and we found that the homes were reselling in the middle 20's and it was going to, our houses were going to be 36, \$38,000.00. To build. And so we talked with Mr. Long, we didn't -- it was just really no more room, they had the boarded up houses so the city and ourselves decided that we'd best delay a little bit on building new houses there and kind of get the boarded up houses, get the boards off them and get them rehab'd and up and going and so the city

1

is involved in that program and we're sort of in a wait and see situation but we have bought the land. We own the lots, we contacted the owners and have that money spent on those lots.

5

6

7

4

We're working in one additional area that's a little bit interesting, we call it the Roosevelt project, that's our buzz word because Roosevelt is the northern boundary of the project, this is a fairly recent effort on our part.

8 9

Just let me get over here and get you pointed out. This area is Central Avenue on the east and Seventh Avenue on the west and Van Buren on the south and Roosevelt on the north. This again is an area that's kind of interesting, it's transitional right now, this has some things that are of interest on it, you've got the Phoenix Union High School, St. Mary's, the Civic Plaza, Good Samaritan, the freeway right of way goes immediately north of it, obviously up in the air a little bit right now, but you're around close to Civic Plaza, Washington Street employment, the Southern Pacific Railroad, and railroad yard and so forth. Very interesting area.

If you go down there right today you find that there

11 12

13

14

10

15

16 17

18

19 20

21

22

23 24

25

are some new buildings being built down there, office buildings and so forth, a few new apartment houses being constructed there, and so we have been in contact with some private contractors that have been customers of ours

for a long time and they have come to us and said, look, we think that there's some things that need to be done down here, what do you think about the area? So we spent a lot of time and -- down there just walking up and driving up and down the street and looking around and saying to ourselves, is there a possibility of melting this kind of budding commercial stuff with some housing that's down there?

And we think maybe there is. We have some developer people who have options on a number of homes in the area. Particularly the older homes that can be restored, rehabilitated, that kind of thing. There are a number of vacant lots and if you look at the map there you see a lot of vacant lots in the area where houses have been pushed off, where at some point in time new houses could be built.

But at this point in time it's a little bit of a pioneering project.

By the way, there's a high rise that's being converted to a condominium down there at Fourth and, Filmore, is it? Embassy Square, you're probably familiar with that. Right here. Embassy Square is going to be converted into condominiums, that's being worked on right now.

We have got involved in right now in the rehabilitation of three houses, if you go into them it makes you a little bit nervous but we think that it can be done, that they can be sold or rented, the people we're working with have

5 6

> 7 8

9

10 11

12

14

13

15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24 25

options on a number of other properties, we're working carefully with the city in -- down there, we think that because of its proximity to employment, to downtown, to the Civic Plaza, to the courthouse and so forth, where there's a lot of employment, people that decide to go back into this area can live and walk to work.

And so we think that's kind of an exciting concept and we are willing to go with the developers and give them some money and if it works, fine. If it doesn't work, you know, we charge it off.

But we think that there's some potential in this particular area.

I'd like to just take a moment and show you some slides of some of the things that we've addressed ourselves These are the houses -- well, let's see, can you see over there, Mr. Pena?

MR. PENA: Yes, that's fine, sure.

A. Can you get a little view of that? These are the houses that are located in the NHS area that John Long built, and by and large they look pretty neat. the very first onesethat were built and you see that there was provided a basic landscape package, and this particular family has gone ahead and taken care of their landscaping and maintained it.

Here's another one where the minimum landscape

package is hurting just a little bit, but all together, the house looks fine and, setting there on the lot.

Here's another small house, we've got an additional picture of that, one tree is somewhat, summer's beaten it down but that's not unexpected, but you see the little planter, the little walls around the plantings and so forth? That's their additional effort, that's not anything that went with the house in the beginning.

Here's one that was sold, has some existing land-scaping, a big tree and a tree in the back, needs the grass mowed, eaclittle looking after, but it's probably okay.

Here's one that, you know, you begin to worry about a little bit, it's a brand new house and they haven't maintained the grass. When they received it it had grass, it had grass planted, it may not have been up but they needed to water it to maintain the grass, you see they're storing in the carport and that always worries us.

One of my staff when we were evaluating the system in our program says, well, the thing you worry about next is they park the truck where the grass had been and that's sort of sometimes we worry about.

But nevertheless it's a very nice home.

There's another one, looks delightful, I think.

They're caring for the home, there's the lawnmower so you know they're mowing the lawn and it's a neat house.

That was the first phase, those were the first ones we sold, the first six, this is the second phase and these are much newer and the landscaping hasn't had a chance other than grass but here's one where things look sort of okay, not great, it looks to me like they're parking by the side of the house, there's probably two vehicles here and only a single carport.

Here's one that had some existing -- they're not really looking after it, manicuring it but it's too early to tell on that one.

Here's kind of a neat little one, notice they've put a refrigeration unit, they're swamp-cooled most of these homes, with evaporative, this one has a little refrigeration unit right by the front door, that covers the master bedroom. So they're improving their home and they're taking fine care of it and that's an addition to the neighborhood.

Here's one that was built without a carport, because we couldn't get any closer to the line, they've got cooler on it and some blinds.

Here's one that they've just recently moved in, but they've let the landscaping go, so the FHA standard minimum landscape package is burned out on that one. It worries us a little bit.

Here's one that we had some of the highest demand for, it sits back on a very deep, 110-foot lot, and it's

neat, and the trees were there existing so that really adds to it, but it's being well maintained and it's a nice home.

Here's one that they've just moved into, but they haven't put a mower to that grass yet and they've got reflective in the windows, but probably not being maintained.

Here's another one that they recently, very recently been into, aren't, haven't got the spirit of it yet.

Another one. Okay. These are some of the lots we have left on -- that we're going to build on in phase 3 down at the NHS. They're just, they've been like this forever. You can see some of the typical homes in the background. We'll build at least one house on, and some of these we'll be able to divide into two lots. Get new houses on them and these are the ones that are just about to start.

There will be one just to the right of this home.

Broadway project at 21st and Broadway, and we're hopeful of something working out. But that's a little longer run program as I mentioned to you.

But we own the lots and at the appropriate time we're going to go down there and see what we can do.

A very nice street here, by the way. The streets are, it's an interesting thing in that particular area you'll find a street that is absolutely lovely, everybody's

1

3

4

5

6

7

9

10

8

11

12 13

14

15

16

17

18

19 20

21

-22

23

24 25 maintaining their yard and their home and so forth, and the next block you'll find three or four or five houses that are in deplorable condition and then the next street you'll find it's nice.

This is a lot we have on probably the best street in this particular neighborhood. This is a shot of the NDP area, now this is the one just east of the Civic Center and where we're going to build the 23 houses. building inthe background is -- belongs to the motel that's uplon Van Buren, you can see the wall that has been built by the City of Phoenix down there and Monroe Street right in front of us, and I think Ninth Street, are we not? that's where we're going to build the 23 houses.

Here's looking at it from a little different angle, you see down, up into it and they'll be built right up against the wall that goes around the base of the motel. This is one of the houses that we're starting down to rehabilitate down on Fourth Street south of -- Second Street south of Roosevelt, and this is an area where we think there's some real ups, and this house is kind of rough looking now, but it's got some of the neat old wood inside and so forth and we think that rehabilitated this will be a duplex and it will be a very interesting home.

We're not planning to restore them, like the Roosevelt house, I mean, you know, the money involved, you

know, nobody can afford to live in them if you do that.

But we do think that we can put them back in the kind of condition that will help revitalize the neighborhood and with the brand new commercial that is nearby, in fact the people can work within a block of their home, we think there's some possibilities and this is typical of the house that we're involved in down in that area.

This is sort of what we're doing because we think

we can make some impact and we think that we need to do

something besides attend meetings and sign posters and whatever

else that sometimes happens in these things, and so we're

digging around out there trying to do something in a way

that maybe others haven't done.

We also loan, of course, in these areas and we have lending operations and people who work those particular areas just to get mortgage loans, and we have an FHA department, Western Savings has not had an FHA department for many years but our FHA department is now operational and it will be engineered to provide FHA financing throughout the valley and to the extent that there are programs within the inner city that have FHA programs and sponsorship, we're geared up, prepared to be involved with that.

So that's kind of where we are with respect to what we're doing.

Now, there was a comment or two in the letter which

1 out that the -- that's more efficient, we can't have a 2 lottery, that was a good way to handle it coming out of the 3 qun first time, but I think that's too difficult to deal 4 with. 5 Did I understand you to say that your firm is Q 6 rehabbing the homes on Broadway? 7 No, sir. Or the city? 9 The city, that's a -- that's a designated area B kind 10 of thing for the city. And those, the homes that are 11 boarded up down there are owned by the city or FHA, and 12 there is a joint effort to go working to get those houses 13 rehabilitated. 14 15 16 17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

For instance, they're willing to sell them to people as-is and provide matching city funds to get them rehabilitated at which point they put a permanent kind of loan back That program is involved -- is working now and really on. needs to be successful before you can build new homes down there.

Q (By Ms. Bean) So when you come right down to it, your programs have relatively little impact on minorities and women?

No, I don't think that. I suppose you have to decide what impact is. Are we putting a 1,000 minorities and women a year in homes? No, we're not doing that, see? What is

our impact? Well, we view the battle, if I can use that word, or our mission as one that not only provides a home for whoever buys that home, but stabilizes the neighborhood. And we have, in these homes that I have showed pictures to you of, there are some that are owned by a woman, a single woman, some that are owned by minorities. That's fine, but our hope is that the impact goes substantially beyond that house. If you just do that house, if you do a house someplace, that's no impact at all. You've got to do something with the neighborhoods, that's the whole problem. And that has been our philosophical view of the question.

That's why we're dealing over here on Roosevelt and so on. You view that and you say if people get excited about refurbishing homes over there, good things can happen. You must view the neighborhood problem, you can't just go after the individual people, because we — now we finance on a financing basis, we do homes, you know, all over the valley. Where women, single women are involved, divorced women, widowed women, minorities of all races and creeds, that's — that's an aside from this effort, you see. That's just the lending program.

This is, use our talent and our energy and some money and try to save neighborhood energy, that's a different kind of a challenge for us.

Q (By Mr. Pena) Are any of those areas where you're

1 working, where you're building, previously red lined areas? 2 No. 3 No? Q. 4 A. You mean had we red lined them? No, no. I think 5 that they're just areas, when you go down into the NHS 6 area for instance, you find an interesting array of people, 7 you find a lot of those homes are owned by older people 8 who have lived down there for 25 years. They own their 9 homes. They don't want to leave. They like it there, 10 that's -- they bought those homes when Indian School was 11 out in the country, see, and so -- and then there's a newer 12 group of people who are coming in there, some of whom 13 grew up there, who say gee, you know, I can work in the 14 hospital, you're right close to Good Samaritan and so 15 forth, I'd like to live in this area. 16 I can walk to work. I can afford a \$30,000.00 home 17 or whatever it is they're selling at any one period of 18 time and so they want to be there. These have not been 19 red lined. 20 (By Ms. Watkins) What was the income level of the Q. 21 persons, for instance buying the homes in the NHS area? 22 Well, they're people whose combined incomes are 23 1,200, \$1,300.00 a month. 24 MS. WATKINS: Thank you. 25 A. Sometimes you'll get a husband, sometimes a wife,

sometimes both.

- Q. (By the Chair) Does your program work?
- A. It has worked, Dr. Warren.
- 0. It has worked.
- A. We're -- we're comfortable with it, we think it works well. Mr. Long is happy to work with us on it.
- Q Are there some factors that make your program work that would make it rather difficult for a combined group to follow you?
- A. Yes, there are some factors that make it difficult. What you have to do to make things like this work is you have to find somebody who is energized to do the job, and who has to understand that he does the job or doesn't get paid.

And that's why it works. We have a very bright, aggressive, energetic man that works — that I work with who I said look, we'd like you to do this. I mean he was down there night and day, he went through the area on his motorcycle, he made long distance telephone calls, I mean it was a terrific job just to get the thing started.

And it takes that, Dr. Warren, you see, committees don't make these kind of things work, I'm not disrespecting any committees in the city or the community or whatever. Somebody '-- ultimately somebody has to do the job. Some body. And we just figure that's the way -- we figure we can

11.

do that to some extent and so we have done it. Now, if you take a consortium of lenders or a consortium of builders, it's going to be really slow.

Q. Well, that was my question, whether or not your experience was exportable? It seems such a creative kind of an enterprise and whether or not it could be expanded with a con -- a consortium.

Was there anything unique in the builders' experience or behavior that --

A. His unique experience was that -- of working with the city. We have a continual challenge to keep the city as interested now as they were a year ago. And we're working at that. Because you do need help. You can't -- you got -- the city has to bend around a little bit, otherwise you know, everything that you go through at the city just simply takes too long.

We're fortunate in having an ex mayor who's involved with Western Savings, he knows his way around there a little bit so that's helpful to us. But somebody has to understand that that's their job.

Now, if you get a larger consortium that doesn't mean to say that won't work, Dr. Morrison, but you've got to get somebody out of that consortium that understands that's his job, that's his responsibility to get that job done. And you've got to get past, as my guy told me, you

5

6

7

got to get past the slogans and the sign painting. got to get down to getting it done. You got to get down to buying the lots, you got to get down to getting them cleaned off, I mean -- and that's, I think, sometimes the problem that we have.

Do you intend to institutionalize this experience and let it be a continuing effort?

8

all kinds of areas of Phoenix, not designated here. We're looking at areas where we can have some impact and where

Oh, sure, we're at it full time. We're looking at

10 11

we can go in and remake our experience because we think we

12

know how to do it at this point of time.

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

THE CHAIR: Are there any questions of Mr. Cederlof? We certainly appreciate your willingness to come, Mr. Cederlof.

Thank you, delightful to be here.

THE CHAIR: The next presenter is Ms. Marie Lilyquist, who is the Deputy Director of Single Family Development, Los Angeles Area Office, of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Ms. Lilyquist is an architect and has served in several departments and in several positions in the department of housing and urban development. And she will make a presentation on programs funded by the department of housing and urban development in the Phoenix and the Tucson area. And with her is Mr. Evans, who is associated with the
Phoenix office of HUD.

With that as background, Ms. Lilyquest?

MS. MARIE LILYQUIST

Q (By Ms. Lilyquist) Thank you, we're very happy to be here.

I have another person joining us, Mr. Colin Montgomery who is a multifamily representative from the Los Angeles office. We had to bring three people because our programs are too complex and we're just going to be covering a small portion of our programs.

HUD has a number of major emphases, one of course is that we're involved in providing shelter, decent shelter for people.

Two, we're involved in revitalizing urban areas.

Three, we're involved in providing a choice of living places.

Which goes beyond just providing living places.

And four, we're involved in enhancing the capability of local government to rejuvenate their communities.

We do this through a number of tools, through grants, through loans, through mortgage insurance programs, through subsidies and through technical assistance to leave

localities. I think to understand our programs you first have to understand a little bit about how we're set up because the delivery of our programs is very important.

We went through a major reorganization last year, which resulted in shifts of staff from various offices. We're structured now so that we have a regional office in San Francisco and we have three area offices in our region, Los Angeles area office is responsible for five other offices, the Phoenix office, Tucson office, the Los Angeles office, San Diego and Santa Ana. Those programs are all administered out of the Los Angeles office.

In LA itself we handle all of our community development programs, equal opportunity programs and all of our multifamily housing programs, even for the Arizona area. Mr. Evans here is a service office supervisor for Phoenix and they are responsible for all single family home ownership programs in the Phoenix area.

We'll be covering today some details on the single family home ownership programs, John Evans will share with you some of the local experiences here in Phoenix in relationship to the single family programs, and Mr.

Montgomery will talk about our multifamily housing programs. We will not be going into any detail on the community development programs as they are a whole series of programs in and of themselves which do have impact on housing, but

they're very varied and they're very, because of the number of communities that are involved in the programs, as I'm sure you've already heard this morning from the Phoenix city, how they're implementing their programs.

We will not be talking about our fair housing programs, other than to mention that what we are involved in in fair housing and equal opportunity is the insuring of housing choice and taking steps against discrimination in housing and marketing our units in an affirmative way to get good distribution of units in localities.

I'll talk a little bit first on the single family programs. Our single family efforts are geared toward providing housing insurance for home ownership, and to facilitate construction and finance of those units. By insuring commercial lenders against loss, we hope to encourage them to invest the capital into the home mortgage market.

I think it's helpful to go back a little bit to when FHA was first started and what the original emphasis was at that time, because it has changed substantially over the years. When it was set up it had a couple of purposes, one it was there to stimulate the economy, we were coming out of a depression, it was trying to provide a lot of jobs. It was also for the first time trying to provide the American dream of home ownership, and it was geared to building

-22

lots of houses, they ended up being mostly suburban housing, our clients were primarily White middle income families, we were involved in providing for the first time, long term mortgages, and good quality construction instead of many of the construction standards which are now used widespread, whether they're FHA or not.

Since that time our purposes have changed substantially. We are involved now in providing home opportunities — home ownership opportunities for lower income and moderate income families. Mostly middle income families do not apply for our programs, they are not within our mortgage limits.

We are involved in urban areas, as opposed to suburbs, we are involved in declining neighborhoods and areas that are undergoing renewal. We are still in the business of providing a good constructed unit so our construction standards are still very much in operation. The very basic single family program is the 203B program, under which we insure loans to private institutions for up to 97% of the property value. Our loans are processed in a two-phase operation, first we appraise the property and determine its acceptability, and second we look at the buyer's credit history to see if it's acceptable to make a loan to the buyer based on his ability to make the mortgage payments and to provide the cash investment in the home.

 Our current maximum mortgage on a single family home is \$60,000.00. So you can see just by the mortgage amount alone we are limiting the clients that we are involved with.

The advantages under our program to the consumer are first of all lower down payment, 3%, and up, depending on various criteria, lower interest rate, I had on here at 10% but this morning we went to ten and a half percent, so it's a little bit higher range than we were yesterday, and that there is some assurance that they're going to get a better quality home than they would on a conventional market.

So that's the basic program that we've been involved with since 1934. We instituted a new program two years ago, the graduated payment mortgage program, which is quickly taking over all of our other programs, it is a program whereby the payments start out lower in the first year of a mortgage and increase over time. We have five plans under that program, different rates of increase, different lengths of time.

It currently, in the Los Angeles jurisdiction, represents about 50% of all of our cases are now processed through this mechanism. It allows families who otherwise would not be able to qualify for even our traditional loans to be able to qualify in the early stages of a mortgage.

4

6

7

9

8

10 11

12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19

20

21 22

23

25

24

Our primary consumers are younger families and families who have never been homeowners in the past.

Second program that Mr. Portillo mentioned in quite a bit of detail, was the revised section 235 program. I might say under the 235 program it was revised in 1974, partly because of some of the problems that were outlined by Mr. Portillo.

To try to narrow down what would make the program work and be successful, as opposed to creating instant slums which it did in some instances. The current program subsidizes the mortgage interest to as low as 4%. It has a number of restrictions to the program which are a direct result of the problems we had experienced with it.

First it's limited to new and substantially rehabilitated unit, it is no longer for existing construction which the older program was. It restricted to families who have an income of not more than 100% of the median income.

Families must pay at least 20% of their adjusted income, the down payment is 3% of the acquisition cost, the sales price can not exceed 120% of the mortgage amount, the mortgages are also restricted in amount for a threebedroom, \$38,000.00 in the Phoenix area. We require counseling under the program prior to buying the house, which we did not in the past, in a particular subdivision or

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14 15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22 23

24

25

a condominium project, no more than 40% of the units may be subsidized, which is a substantial change from the old program.

I think one of the problems that we experienced with the 235 in terms of changing the conditions of the low and moderate income families, is that once the person sells the house the subsidy is lost. So it's a -- in that sense it's a subsidy that's tied to an individual family and when they sell, the subsidy is lost.

John Evans will talk a little bit more about that program later in terms of the Phoenix area and the experiences we're having in Phoenix.

Another program is our 223E program, which is housing in declining neighborhoods. Under this program we insure lenders to make loans in areas which normally would not meet criteria for good underwriting, and this is where the red lining issue I think comes into play. Areas which under normal circumstances we see are changing areas, they're going commercial or industrial, but the housing unit itself is still a good unit and still viable.

Under that program there's a special risk that's involved in it, we still insure those units, but they're insured under the 223 E program.

And I think that's partly an attempt by Congress to separate that program out so we can see really what are our

risks in that area.

Currently Congress is dealing with our new housing act which will hopefully be passed in the next month, they're looking at increasing the mortgage limits, a very minor amount, to single family, substantial amount on two, three and four-unit buildings. They've already increased the interest rate so that one's kind of out.

They're looking at changes on our 245 program to lower the down payment to allow even more families to qualify under that program. And they're looking at our acceptance of condominium units in existing projects as a tool to also get at more moderate income families.

I'd like to ask John Evans to talk a little bit about some of the experiences they're having here, locally in the single family programs.

MR. JOHN EVANS

A. (By Mr. Evans) I would like to thank you for providing this opportunity, I have, much of what I've heard this morning has caused me to examine our programs and to think about the objectives and the degree of success with which they're being accomplished. I also can't help making the observation that anyone would have to conclude that

major structural changes are going to be necessary in the concept of housing, we're going to have to decide whether it's housing we're going to provide or housing ownership we're going to provide.

We're going to have to make decisions about the way people live in single family houses. But that, I, just as an observation, is what I have found most interesting this morning in your discussion so far.

Here in Phoenix on the 235 program, Marie has outlined what the program is all about. We at the present time have about 3,000 units of 235 housing in the Maricopa County area. With another 105 units in the area which we cover, and I think it would be helpful if it was understood that the Phoenix service office covers Casa Grande north in Arizona. So that's a total there. We're getting in our office about five requests a day for 235 housing units, and we have a kit which we supply which gives the income limits.

I think you would be interested in knowing that there are only now about five builders in the Maricopa County area, in the metropolitan area, who have reservations under 235 and therefore can provide new housing.

There is no such thing as existing 235 housing inventory which you can go and buy a house, an existing house under 235 unless you happen to come onto one that has just come on the market and you, yourself, are eligible for a 235 loans.

and

and it can be assumed under those conditions.

To go into several other programs very briefly, we have a property disposition program where HUD acquires ownership of houses under default, and at the present moment, that's a bidding process, you go to your local realtor and ask for a list of these houses which are available, then there is a bidding process on each house, there's a price established and you bid to that figure. And I must tell you in all honesty, that there isn't a great deal of opportunity here for low and moderate income housing.

We've had 236 sales up to this point this year, so it isn't a major vehicle for housing low and moderate income, and some of those are bought by investors.

You've heard the urban homesteading program described this morning. And here again, the -- or participation in the urban homesteading is dependent upon the number of houses that we get back in default and we've only had, been able to provide the City of Phoenix with 87 houses and we're only acquiring these houses under default at the rate of about eight a month, and it takes a considerable amount of time to bring those on stream, having rehabilitated them, having advertised them and so on, so it again is not a major opportunity.

We have an assignment program where, when a homeowner is about to be foreclosed upon, he has defaulted, three months,

it is mandatory that the lenders advise us that this problem exists and they advise the homeowner that he has the opportunity to come to us and ask us to assume the ownership of that mortgage and then to deal with him rather than the mortgagee.

There are a number of requirements for that. We have to know if athere is an intention to foreclose, that three months are overdue and that the property is the principal residence of the mortgagor. In other words, is not an investor's program, that he does not own other property mortgage insured by HUD and one of the primary things that the default was caused by circumstances beyond his control.

There must be a reasonable prosepct that the mortgagor will be able to resume payments after a period of reduced or suspended payments not to exceed 36 months but under certain circumstances we do reach an agreement with the person in default that he won't make any payments because he has demonstrated that he will shortly, through ill health or some other problem, be able to pick up where he left off.

This has been about, just about a 100 applications that we've had to assume mortgages this year and we have accepted about 17% of those. And -- 13%, pardon me.

And we have, through our efforts in counseling with the person who is threatened with foreclosure and his lender,

been able to bring them back together again under some plan, they've gone on ahead with what they, at present, are occupied with.

You've heard this morning reference made to section

245, the graduated payment mortgage, in all honesty I would
have to tell you that it does not appear to be a program
ideally suited to low and moderate income persons, if they
are somewhat stagnated as far as their income prospects
for the future, it's very good for the youngster who's
making a first time investment in a home who has the ability,
however, to come up with a down payment which is roughly
twice as much as the 203 program, the standard program,
so it's -- it's ideal for the youngster who's going out,
has his parents maybe can help him make that down payment,
the initial mortgage payments are lower but then they increase
over a period of time after five or ten years.

I will stop there. I do think there is an element that should be discussed at some point, which is discrimination in housing, and the fair housing aspects, and I think it's valuable in this area to know that we assist in forwarding such complaints to the Los Angeles office, but we do not investigate nor make determinations in this office of discrimination complaints.

And a great deal of the social dimension of the HUD programs we largely look to Los Angeles in their block grant

programs to administer. We are, therefore, in the Phoenix office, largely concerned with the standard insurance of FHA single family loans.

A. (By Ms. Lilyquist) Can we answer any questions on the single family before we go to the multifamily or would you rather wait?

THE CHAIR: Wait.

A. All right, I'd like Colin to talk about the multi-emilies.

MR. COLIN MONTGOMERY

A. (By Mr. Montgomery) Thank you very much, Marie.

My function with the department of housing and urban development is that of multifamily housing representative.

As such, we are in effect the front office contact between local housing authorities, builders, developers and sponsors.

I'd like to give a brief rundown, really, on what we feel are the HUD or the department's housing programs and the type of programs that we have brought about to try and meet these needs. The broad objective, of course, is to provide decent home and a suitable living environment for every American.

The multifamily department basically makes two basic

approaches, one, they provide housing subsidies to lower income tenants for the rental of the multifamily units, and two, we provide financing vehicles to encourage and to facilitate the construction of both subsidized and non-subsidized rental units.

The federal government actually has about 42 years in the provision of housing subsidies by various means, and to bring us up to date I'll mention some of them.

Back in 1937, the subsidy to local housing authorities for the construction of low rent public housing, then in 1951, a section called 202, this is a direct loan by the government at a lower interest, 3% interest strictly for elderly housing.

Then in 1961, a 3% loan program was introduced for family housing. Following right on through, in '65 supplemental rental program was initiated. Then in 1968, the section 236, which was a deep interest subsidy for both family and elderly rental units.

And bringing us up to date to the present, in 1974, the section 78 housing assistance payment program was introduced. During this time we developed a number of non-subsidized mortgage insurance programs. Through these programs, the mortgagee was insured against the loss on the construction of the project, and on the permanent loan.

These insurance programs cover family housing, elderly

housing, nursing home, cooperative housing, hospitals, condominiums, group practice medical facilities, mobile home parks.

HUD, however, does not build housing nor do they design the project nor do they actually rent. What we do, however, is to encourage the provision of housing by these two basic approaches I previously mentioned. One of subsidizing, to reduce the housing so that decent, safe and sanitary housing is within the reach of low and moderate income families, and secondly, the provision of financing vehicles for multifamily housing.

Since the '74 housing community development act, section 8 has been the department's primary source of housing subsidies, simply put, this program assists low and moderate income tenants and very low income tenants for rental by their contributing 15 to 25% of their income.

And the government, through the section 8 housing assistance payment plan, paying the balance up to the fair market rent.

The program itself is very flexible, it can accomodate a wide range of tenant incomes from a zero income tenant to presently approximately about \$16,000.00 annual income for the family of four.

It covers family, elderly occupancy, covers existing units, new construction or units proposed for substantial

rehab. Since the department does not build housing directly, we seek intermediaries to accept the subsidies and to channel them into the needed units to be occupied by the qualified tenants.

These intermediaries are basically three kinds, profit motivated concern, or private, nonprofit corporations and public housing agencies. These are the conduits that HUD uses to subsidize and whereby the subsidy funds forward to the tenant.

They can work separately or together, depending on the program type.

Section 8 funds are first appropriated by Congress and then channeled through the various HUD area offices throughout the country and eventually find their way to our particular area office jurisdiction. We cover the whole State of Arizona and the southern part of California from San Luis Obispo down to San Diego and including Kern County.

We basically advertise and invite proposals for new construction or substantial rehab. The existing program is administeredaby the local housing authority and we provide the rental subsidy fund there.

The 202 program, which I mentioned earlier on, this is a direct loan program for elderly and handicapped, it works in much the same manner as our section 8 except that

the sponsors may only be private, nonprofit organizations, and the unit must be designed for the elderly and handicapped.

These proposals are received and they're ranked against each other to obtain the best project and the present cost of construct of course, not necessarily the lower cost, but the better project is usually the ones that are selected.

The applications for the existing section 8 program are solicited only from public housing authorities and these cover family, elderly, single qualified tenants, and each housing authority have their own tenant selection guidelines that are basically within the framework of those set down by the federal government.

A certain portion of the section 8 funds are also allocated to be used by the state housing finance agencies and in the State of Arizona by the Farmers Home Administration. We apply section 8 rental assistance to projects that they finance the construction of. The categories of our funding is restricted by Congress, and these others say the section 202, the housing finance development agencies, Farmers Home Administration, and PH owned projects.

In distributing these funds we have to be assured that there's a balanced distribution of family and elderly as well as new construction rehab. and existing in accordance with the approved housing assistance plans, to each community

puts together to qualify for community development block grant funds.

- A. (By Ms. Lilyquist) We're hoping for questions.

 THE CHAIR: Okay, anyone from the panel have any questions you wish to raise?
- Q (By Mr. Pena) Mr. Chairman, Ms. Lilyquist, I think it was you that mentioned that FHA or HUD helps local tenants with grants and you mentioned a few other things, I suspect that selling or giving homes to a city is part of the program, is that --
 - A. Yes.
- Q. -- and then I think you mentioned something about the same kind of a program for nonprofit, private groups?
- Q. (By Mr. Montgomery) That is correct. HUD is only involved in two, what we term direct loan program, where HUD actually lends the money or gives the money in the direct loan to a sponsor or organization. That is the 202, section 202, which is housing for the elderly and handicapped by nonprofit, private, nonprofit organizations and the second method is to the local housing authorities and the cities for public housing.

These are the only two direct loan programs that we're involved in the actual acquisition of land and the construction of the project.

Our other form of subsidy is by way of section 8,

which is the rental subsidy to the tenants.

Q Is the 202 active?

A Very, very active. And we've got approximately seven, 202's in various stages of processing and construction in the Maricopa County area. And as of last week, we received a selection of another four, 202's. And these are usually between 100 to 150-unit projects. We have some in Phoenix, Flagstaff, and down in Tucson. I have some of the actual numbers with me, but it is a very active program.

To the extent that funding is made available to us, and this is -- we're always back to that again. We can not meet the need in really any community because of the funding limitations.

Q Let me talk about, about standards. You have standards and builders have to adhere to the standards. Do you have a miminum standard, do you have different standards for different localities? Different standards for different applicants? Do you have a standard for a Chicano barrio, a Black neighborhood, or do you have one minimum standard for everybody?

A. (By Ms. Lilyquist) Okay, under new construction there's a minimum property standard which is one standard and applies to any new construction unit, it's the same standard. All of the standards are subject to being waived or local things being determined on them and sometimes they

are waived either by John Evans in Phoenix or by myself in my jurisdiction. That is to allow us the flexibility of building houses, in some cases, you know, you have no choice you either -- you don't build a house or you waive the standard.

Pretty much our standards on new construction are adhered to very strictly. Existing construction is a whole different thing. You're dealing with existing units, some that could be, you know, 50 years old, you're getting into a lot of judgment calls on that, and you get caught between the consumers, the buyers and the sellers on those houses because if you try to make them too tough, then the sellers are going to up the prices which excludes the very market that we're trying to reach.

So the standards on existing vary very much according to the individual structure and what we think is necessary to make it a good risk.

- Q. I think the building standards, the workmanship and material, have a lot to do with people abandoning homes.

 Do you have anything to do with Farmers Home?
 - A. Only through the --
- Q. (By Mr. Montgomery) I have a certain amount of -I have a working relationship with Farmers Home and
 we've actually acquired here in Maricopa County, a number
 of Farmers Home units that we are now rehabilitating and

they will become part of the public housing program here in Maricopa County.

Q. Well, I think that's a good example of poor workmanship, and perhaps somebody failing to inspect for material, the proper material. I'm sure the government is paying for good material and good workmanship and getting shoddy workmanship and very poor substandard material. And that's why I say it always, that helps to encourage people to abandon a home, the thing begins to fall apart and maintenance costs are high, and we're moving poor folks into a subsidized home they can't afford to keep even with the low interest rates that they have.

Which raises a question in my mind, does HUD have followup inspectors for homes that are insured by FHA?

- A. (By Ms. Lilyquist) New constructed homes?
- New constructed homes.

A All the new constructed homes carry the one-year warranty and during that period we're very actively involved with the contractor on any deficiencies and we do follow up on every complaint. The ones that are more difficult are the ones past the one-year point or existing housing. In which it's almost, you know, a buyer beware kind of program because there is no insurance, and frequently what we deal with are people who have never owned a home before, and they may buy a house, an existing house

especially and have no idea of what to look for in the house or anything and then, when the defects occur, they have no method of paying for them either.

Q I don't have any more unless -- you mentioned some of the grants that are made to local entities or nonprofit, and what are they for? Besides -- are any of them used to reduce interest: rates?

A Well, the biggest program we have in terms of grants is the community development block grant program which you've heard several speak of and then the communities usually develop their own programs of interest subsidies and that sort of thing, and the communities have come up with just hundreds of types of programs on doing that.

The variety is infinite that they've been trying and it was interesting this morning to hear some of the things that Phoenix is doing because success has not been that great in any community that I have seen, that each one is kind of struggling with it and trying it and then saying, well, that doesn't work, now what can I do next?

And we've been encouraging the cities to do some more work among themselves to try to share the experience each one of them is trying, but that's the -- our biggest grant program is really community development block grant program.

THE CHAIR: Any other questions?

Q (By Ms. Watkins) Mr. Evans, from your view of it or from your reading of the 2304, what impact do you feel that would have on minorities and women in the Arizona area?

- A. (By Mr. Evans) I would be largely dependent upon the observations of Mr. Portillo and agree that under the present interpretations of the operation of this law, that I don't see any great impact upon truly low income housing.
- Q. The parameters are just too high as far as the income levels?
- A Yes, I believe so, and I also think that the mechanism is so conerous that it would be difficult for an uninformed person to operate with them.

MS. WATKINS: Thank you.

- Q. (By the Chair) Will you track for me reasons why minorities, historically, and women more recently, have not been adequately served in this whole area of housing adequacy? Is it a matter of funds or the lack of lobbyists or what is the reason for --
- A (By Ms. Lilyquist) Are you talking about in the area of home ownership or the area of --
 - Q. Of home ownership.
- A I don't know, I think as John said earlier, I think that we're not very clear about what our policy is about that we talk about home ownership but I don't think we've thought about what do you do when a low income family, while 235

was a going example when they came out, put it out for low income families but then what happened when the roof leaked and they had no money to repair it? Nobody thought the thing through very carefully. And I think, frankly, you get into philosophical questions about what do you do with the middle income family who feels that they've had to work all these years to get this thing and then you subsidize a lower income family.

You just get into some basic things that the popoulation as a whole has not been willing to accept, so that Congress is not being pushed in that area.

I think it's going to get worse as inflation goes up and middle income families start struggling more and more for it, the idea of subsidizing a lower income family to allow them a home ownership opportunity when perhaps middle income families may not even be able to afford it, becomes a touchy political issue more than anything else.

Q (By Mr. Evans) I would also add that I don't think there's any organized constitutency for low and moderate income housing, Chicanos Por La Causa is very active and we deal with them, I have some contact with the Phoenix Urban League, but there is no group actively and massively massaging the political system to get delivery, I think one of the reasons the answers aren't apparent, first of all, on what they could do. But I think if there's a discrimation

at work in housing at least in this area, it would have to be regarded not as a racial discrimination or as a sex discrimination but an economic discrimination.

Q (By the Chair) Seems to me the statement that you made denies the reality of our economic system. And it denies a clear understanding of focal value of material gain. And the fact that there will be winners and there will be losers in the economic race.

We know that. And by virtue of one's race or economic condition as reflected whom their parents are and their socioeconomic level, their social class, where they go to school and so forth, there's differential application of resources and there's difference of effects.

We only need so many persons with owner wealth skills, I was reading a report last week on Carnegie Foundation for Children, that 4% of our population own 37% of the wealth.

So we know there receipting to be poor people. We only need -- we know that if someone graduates from Harvard Business School, that they will not be out with a pickeand shovel. There will be some work at policy level, and we know that in lesser and lesser and lesser institutions, that the result of that is probably certain skills, perceptions, knowledges, attitudes and so forth, and there's that large body of persons who work in industrial plants and

so forth. The question in my mind is that I was reading the statement by Patricia Harris that said housing units in her view of fundamental essential and basic human right equivalent to food and clothing, etcetera, etcetera, and one of our charges is to tease out evidence where there has not been equal protection under the law, it just seems to me that an adequate education, adequate housing and so forth, as reflected operationally in poor people, with particular reference to minorities and women, not being equally protected, really deprecates the whole concept of equal protection under the law.

And I guess my question is we know historically that it's been the sqeaking, not only the squeaking but the perceptive information, knowledge, wheel that got them grease, but when we know what inadequate housing does to persons, and what it does to families, and those intergenerational effects if mama and papa aren't able to survive, it's reflected in their children and then their children's children, whether or not, at the national level, you know, there's philosophical thinking being fed into the mission of organizations such as yours.

A. (By Ms. Lilyquist) My own personal feeling is that there's a lot of thinking along those lines, but there is always political reality that's out there and Tathinkan that's what I was trying to speak to.

I think that our Congress, many are very much aware of exactly what you're talking about and the need for it and they hear it every time they come home, but they're also aware of that larger constitutency which happens to be made up of the middle and upper income groups which are the dominant groups, and in a time of inflation especially and people being squeezed, it's just not the popular thing to do.

THE CHAIR: So there's a lot of wheel spinning.

A. (By Mr. Montgomery) I'd like to add one other thing, I briefly made reference to each community compiling what we call a housing assistance plan. We go over these housing assistance plans with a very fine-tooth comb, and if they do not address the needs and the goals and how they propose achieving the goals on single female head of house-hold, minority, elderly, they stand every chance of losing their entire block grant funding.

And we reject any housing plan that does not address these elements, not all, if they don't state how they propose reaching their goals, these are monitored every year and when we apply the subsidies it must be in proportion, and in proportionality to the various needs.

Small family, large family, female head of household, elderly and so on. So if we-- we are increasingly, I feel, making for a much firmer monitoring service.

4 5

6

7 8

10

9

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19 20

21

22

23

25

24

(By Ms. Lilyquist) I might also add that we're, I think much more aggressive in that on those plans, when we first started the plans back in 1974, the community could put down they were going to build so many units and when they didn't get the subsidy they said, well, we didn't get the subsidy we can't do the unit.

We don't buy that anymore, we ask them what other ways are they going to go about doing it and we've got cities now putting in massive amounts of money to write down land costs, to get developers to come in and build those units, to, you know, and to come up with other creative ways of dealing with the problem.

Because before it was always total reliance on the federal government to come up with it, and that's why I was a little bit interested in what the City of Phoenix said in terms of their general revenue monies, you know, what kinds of monies are the cities putting in directly to achieve some of that.

We were doing wonderful with elderly housing but when it came to family housing it was another whole story and I think for the first time this past year we put a major emphasis on getting that in balance as Colin said, so that the family housing doesn't balance with the elderly.

THE CHAIR: Any other questions?

Q. (By Mr. Pena) Just one.

 John, on discrimination, you said that when you get a complaint, you can't, you don't investigate, you send it on to Los Angeles. Why aren't these run through, for example the Phoenix Human Relations Commission that could act on it right now, or the state civil rights commission, instead of going a big route probably takes a long time to resolve?

A. (By Mr. Evans) I hate to pass a hot potato to someone else but I have asked Ida Vasquez to be here this morning, she's our housing assistance representative, and has been dealing in these areas for a good many years in this office and if I may, I'd like to refer that question to her.

MS. IDA VASQUEZ

A (By Ms. Vasquez) Usually we get a telephone complaint, we explain to the people the process. We do refer to the human relations commission and we do refer to the state where it is outside of Phoenix. However, most people have a feeling that the federal government can do more for them, so that in that particular instance we give them the number to call in LA, or if they so choose, we mail the complaint form and an affidavit form to them with a stamped envelope to go directly to LA.

So we do give them all this information. I do.

Because it's really up to them to decide which way they want
to go because yes, they do have these different options.

But a lot, as you know, the human relations commission is very active, but it's strictly Phoenix. If somebody calls from Mesa, Scottsdale, Tempe, or any outlying area, then I give them the state.

Q (By Mr. Pena) There ought to be a way of convincing people that if they want to have their discrimination problem resolved immediately so that they could become eligible for the loan or that home that they want, that they ought to take it up here, locally.

I don't know if Mesa has a human relations commission, and probably not. And I don't think the county has anything like that either, and --

A. No.

Q -- I think that that's one thing you might look at is the local authority of HUD to investigate and resolve discrimination complaints here without having to go to a regional office.

A. (By Mr. Evans) I might add, Senator, that this was our responsibility until the reorganization a year ago.

And one of the unfortunate byproducts has been that the local people who were responsible for investigating these complaints did not wish to relocate, and they have left

the service and so now that, I think it is complicated and difficult for Los Angeles to act with any speed.

A. (By Ms. Lilyquist) I might say part of the rationale about centralizing the complaint unit was that to have it referred to an office who perhaps was doing the discrimination or was involved in the discrimination, you know, might make the result of the complaint come out a certain way.

It's not even within our jurisdiction, it's directly under the regional administrator, and she has a unit that just does nothing but that. I think they act fairly quickly on complaints but of course, nowhere as quickly as an office which is out there already would have acted on, but that was, some of the thinking was that they would get a more unbiased source.

MR. PENA: Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Any other questions?

Well, we certainly want to thank you.

MR. EVANS: We admire your capacity for endurance.

THE CHAIR: We have to go to work after this.

In this consultation we have attempted to elicit
data that establishes a rather clear picture of the
state or or proposals for housing for members -- I'm sorry,
for minorities and women. And areas have included legislation, plans, programs, and the operational effects of these.

1 We've gained selected input from a cross section 2 of persons who have unique insights and experiences into this 3 domain. Unquestionably the area is complex with many 4 nuances and subtleties and hopefully, through this process, 5 we've identified these. 6 The next step is the distillation of this material 7 into an internally consistent report including conclusions 8 and recommendations. 9 On behalf of the committee, I want to extend my 10 thanks to those persons who participated and offered 11 these insights and certainly we're grateful for that. 12 Is there anything that anyone of the committee 13 wishes to say? 14 MR. PENA: Mr. Chairman, was there a fellow by the 15 name of Don Saulis (Phonetic)? 16 THE CHAIR: Yes, he was here but he left. 17 VOICE: He said he had to leave. 18 THE CHAIR: Yes, I had his name on the list to 19 present. 20 Art, anything you wish to say before we close? 21 MR. PALACIOS: Nothing other than thanking every one 22 who did appear and make the presentation. I thought, quite 23 frankly, it was very informative. 24 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 25 (Hearing adjourned)

STATE OF ARIZONA COUNTY OF PIMA I, JAMES E. BOULEY, do hereby certify that I am an Official Shorthand Reporter; that I was present at the hearing of the foregoing matter; that I took down in short-hand all proceedings had and testimony adduced at said hearing; that the same was thereafter transcribed under my supervision, and the foregoing 144 pages represent a complete and accurate transcription of my shorthand notes so taken. WITNESS MY HAND this 29th day of September, 1979.