

STATEMENT OF LAURENCE K. WALRATH, CHAIRMAN, INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION; ACCOMPANIED BY EVERETT HUTCHINSON, COMMISSIONER, INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION; ROBERT GINNANE, GENERAL COUNSEL, INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION; AND BERTRAM E. STILLWELL, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF OPERATING RIGHTS, INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

Mr. WALRATH. Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

Senator LONG. We are happy to have you here this morning.

Mr. WALRATH. Thank you, sir. And on my left, as you will notice, is Commissioner Hutchinson, also of the Interstate Commerce Commission. We also have here Robert Ginnane, Esq., General Counsel for the ICC, and also a member of the Administrative Conference of which Commissioner Hutchinson was a member, and then Bertram E. Stillwell, Director of the Bureau of Operating Rights, Interstate Commerce Commission. He, too, served as a member of the Administrative Conference under Judge Prettyman's chairmanship.

I have a very happy responsibility this morning of saying that our Commission had the benefit of a draft of Commissioner Hutchinson's testimony that he proposes to give before your committee, and rather than burden your record with two witnesses from our group, we have officially—we asked him to speak officially for us as well as his own views and to answer your questions. So my appearance at the moment, Mr. Chairman, is simply to say that the ICC endorses and supports the testimony which Commissioner Hutchinson will give and to call your attention to our letter of June 12, which was delivered yesterday stating in writing the official position of the ICC.

I think it will be entirely consistent with Commissioner Hutchinson's testimony.

Senator LONG. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have a copy of that letter and it will be placed in the record at this time.

(The letter referred to follows:)

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION,
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN,
Washington, D.C., June 12, 1963.

HON. JAMES O. EASTLAND,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR CHAIRMAN EASTLAND: This is in response to your letter of June 10, 1963, requesting comments on a bill, S. 1664, introduced by Senator Long of Missouri, to provide for continuous improvement of the administrative procedure of Federal agencies by creating an Administrative Conference of the United States, and for other purposes. This matter has been considered by the Commission and I am authorized to submit the following comments in its behalf:

In principle, we agree with the bill's overall objective to establish a continuing Administrative Conference of the United States. Accordingly, our comments will be confined to particular provisions therein which, in our opinion, appear either unclear or otherwise unsatisfactory.

At the outset, we wish to register our specific approval of section 4(b) which provides that "The Conference shall be composed preponderantly of Federal officials and personnel" and of a similar provision in section 6(b) relating to Council membership. Otherwise, there always would be the possibility that outside interests could dominate operations and recommendations. So conditioned, however, we believe that the broad grant of jurisdiction conferred in the bill would enable the Conference to carry out its intended mission.