

Mr. HUDDLESTON. Thank you, Mr. Gunther. We appreciate your coming before the committee.

Mr. GUNTHER. Thank you, sir.

**STATEMENT OF ROBERT F. KNEIPP, ASSISTANT CORPORATION
COUNSEL, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

Mr. HUDDLESTON. Mr. Robert F. Kneipp, the Assistant Corporation Counsel.

Mr. KNEIPP. Mr. Chairman, the Commissioners did not receive the committee's request for a report until Monday of this week, and the Commissioners have not had an opportunity to meet and consider the bill.

The principal impact of the bill, as far as the government of the District of Columbia is concerned, is in the Office of Recorder of Deeds, and I think the Commission would be guided in large measure by his views on the bill.

I might mention there has been discussion between the Corporation Counsel's Office and Mr. Monk and between the Corporation Counsel's Office and Mr. Ridley, the Recorder of Deeds, on certain proposed amendments before the committee now, particularly amendments numbered, in what was handed to the committee just this morning, 5, 6, 7, and 8, made available to the committee by Mr. Monk.

I am not able really to reflect the Commissioners' views on the bill at this time, but hope to get a report in as soon as possible, recognizing the committee's desire to move promptly on the bill. I should like to defer to Mr. Peter Ridley, the Recorder of Deeds, to assist the committee in those portions of the bill that really affect the government of the District of Columbia itself.

Mr. HUDDLESTON. Thank you, Mr. Kneipp. The Commissioners' report, when received, will be made a part of the record.

(The report referred to follows:)

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Washington, D.C., April 22, 1963.

HON. JOHN L. McMILLAN,
Chairman, Committee on the District of Columbia,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR MR. McMILLAN: The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have for report H.R. 5338, 88th Congress, a bill to enact the Uniform Commercial Code for the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

The Commissioners are informed that H.R. 5338 is similar in form and substance to the uniform commercial code drafted under the joint sponsorship of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and the American Law Institute. The bill would supersede the District of Columbia Uniform Acts on negotiable instruments, warehouse receipts, sales, and stock transfers, and certain statutory provisions dealing with bulk sales and bank checks, but would not replace existing District of Columbia law relating to pawnbrokers, moneylenders, liens on motor vehicles, installment sales on motor vehicles, or the Act for Simplification of Fiduciary Security Transfers. The Commissioners are informed that the bill is supported by the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, the Bankers Association, and the Metropolitan Washington Board of Trade.

The Commissioners note that H.R. 5338 imposes a number of duties on the Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia. In the interest of clarifying the bill insofar as it relates to the Recorder of Deeds and bringing the procedures established