

chamber, feel that this adequately protects information which business throughout the country gives to the Government for the various purposes that the Government may desire?

Mr. HARDIN. In this connection, Mr. Kass, we asked a couple of the trade associations that are members of the national chamber whether this bill would have any detrimental effect on them, insofar as it relates to material that they are required to file with Government agencies and departments. The two associations that we heard from stated that in their opinion this would not prejudice the protection afforded to business in trade secrets or properly confidential matters. These were trade associations speaking for their members in response to our specific question. So in my judgment, the bill appears to offer adequate protection.

Mr. KASS. Thank you, Mr. Hardin.

No further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MOSS. Mr. Hardin, I want to thank you and Mr. Sullivan for your appearance and support of this legislation. Thank you.

Mr. HARDIN. Thank you.

Mr. MOSS. Our next witnesses will be Mr. Julius Frandsen and Mr. Clark Mollenhoff, chairman and vice chairman of Sigma Delta Chi's Committee for Advancement of Freedom of Information.

STATEMENT OF JULIUS FRANDSEN, CHAIRMAN, SIGMA DELTA CHI'S COMMITTEE FOR ADVANCEMENT OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION; ACCCOMPANIED BY CLARK R. MOLLENHOFF, VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr. FRANDSEN. Mr. Chairman, aside from my capacity as chairman of the Sigma Delta Chi's Freedom of Information Committee, I am here also as the Washington manager of United Press International. If I may, before we proceed to the Sigma Delta Chi statement, I would like to present a very short statement if behalf of UPI.

As you know, UPI is an American corporation engaged in the collection and dissemination of news throughout most of the world.

Since the day of its inception as United Press Associations in 1907, UPI has been a leader in combating all manner of barriers to the free flow of news—whether by exclusive contractual relationships, peacetime censorship, or, in the area with which H.R. 5012 comes to grips, the withholding of U.S. Government information at the source.

UPI does not presume to comment on the legal concepts of the bill at hand or the scope of the eight specified exceptions, although some of the latter would seem to be susceptible to rather broad interpretations.

The management of United Press International, however, has directed me to say that it fully supports the objective of the bill, which as we understand it is to promote the freest possible flow of Federal Government information consistent with national security and those individual rights that must remain inviolate.

Our editor, Mr. Earl J. Johnson, expressed hope that the bill could have an affirmative preamble to the effect that it is the intent of Congress that the maximum of public business—and of course, Government is public business—be conducted in public.

I do not know whether the legislative format permits such a declaration, but I would like to commend his suggestion to you.