

ments. They are matters, of course, which have caused these public hearings to be held.

We appreciate very much your statement this morning.

Unless the gentleman from Maryland has further questions, you may go.

Mr. GUDE. I have no questions, but I would like to comment with reference to a statement by Dr. Rowe in particular, Mr. Sisk: I do not think that we are dealing with a black-and-white situation in this field: Whether optometry is a profession or whether it remains what it is at the present time. Necessarily, a large number of measures can be carried out and give the public satisfactory eyecare at a reasonable cost. We have to safeguard that, so that that be done, to safeguard those individuals who need such attention, to see that they are properly served. I hope that we can present some such measure as that.

Mr. SISK. Thank you very much.

We will now hear from Mr. Moyer and Dr. Heath of the District of Columbia government.

Again, I will suggest that the statement of the Commissioners be made a part of the record. If you have any statement in addition to that, you may certainly proceed.

**STATEMENT OF THOMAS F. MOYER, ASSISTANT CORPORATION
COUNSEL, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT; ACCOMPANIED
BY DR. F. C. HEATH, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Mr. MOYER. I will just say a few words. I will guarantee that.

The Commissioners' report which you suggested be made a part of the record is very similar to the one which was submitted last year. The bills are very similar in many respects.

Their first recommendation was, as you know, that they would prefer, rather than any optometry bill, a general licensing bill which they feel, in the long run, would be better for a number of occupations in the District.

Therefore, they have submitted a number of proposed amendments to the optometry bill.

Their main concern has been brought out in much of the testimony as to the expanded definition of "optometry" and the dangers that others fear, particularly the ones affected in the District which has eyecare, visual testing by school nurses and by school teachers or people of that sort.

As to the provisions of the bill which have to do with corporate practices, we have not been made aware of any reason why these provisions should be changed. Basically, their report is the same as that which was submitted to the committee last year.

I will defer to Dr. Heath from the District of Columbia Department of Public Health at this point.

Mr. SISK. Thank you. The commissioners' letter will be included in the record at this point.

(The letter referred to follows:)