

Mr. MULTER. I think, Mr. Gude, it might be well to state for the record at this point, while there has been the change with reference to the District Government by virtue of the approval of the Reorganization Plan No. 3, the matters we are addressing ourselves to in any event would probably require legislation by the Congress.

Mr. GUDE. That is right. And, of course, the change in organization of the District Government hasn't reduced the problem of air pollution any. We still have to tackle it regardless, and I think this was brought out in the debate on Reorganization Plan No. 3.

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, I am pleased to have the opportunity to come before this Subcommittee to discuss legislation which I introduced to attack the grave problem of air pollution in the District of Columbia. This same legislation is being sponsored by Congressman Horton and by you, Mr. Chairman.

Before proceeding, I want to express my appreciation to Chairman McMillan of the full Committee and Chairman Multer of the Subcommittee for their willingness to conduct this hearing. Their interest in seeking a solution to the critical air pollution problem in the District is most commendable. I know that Chairman McMillan who comes from an especially rural area, is very cognizant of the air pollution difficulties plaguing our large Metropolitan Washington area, and you, Mr. Multer, as a representative from our nation's largest city, have many problems to deal with in your own area, so I doubly appreciate the time you are taking to consider legislation for the District of Columbia.

The largest single source of air pollution in the District is automobiles. The effects of carbon monoxide can range anywhere from drowsiness to death. Scientific tests indicate that at 1000 parts of carbon monoxide per million parts of air, the gas kills quickly and at 100 parts it produces bad headaches and dizziness. In 1966, the maximum one-hour concentration of carbon monoxide for the District was 38 parts per million, while the maximum five-minute concentration for the District was 47 parts per million. And while 50 parts per million presently is considered dangerous, we are not as certain as we learn more. For example, California researchers found that 30 parts per million for eight hours seriously affects people who already have poor blood circulation. To me the conclusion is obvious: We are flirting with dangerous levels of carbon monoxide in our own Metropolitan Washington.

I attach chart setting forth these figures.

DATA COMPILED BY THE AIR QUALITY AND EMISSION DATA BRANCH, NATIONAL CENTER FOR AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

SULFUR DIOXIDE CONCENTRATION IN PARTS PER MILLION FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA¹

Year	Average concentration for the year	Maximum 24-hour concentration	Maximum 1-hour concentration	Maximum 5-minute concentration
1962.....	0.06	0.18	0.38	0.56
1963.....	.05	.25	.48	.56
1964.....	.05	.22	.62	.87
1965.....	.05	.20	.35	.44
1966.....	.05	.25	.45	.47

¹ Data were obtained from continuous air monitoring program station in Washington, D.C. at 1st and L Streets, NW.