

immediately, it does serve notice that they must at a future time conform with these standards and that they must defend their lack of compliance at regular intervals.

And speaking of compliance, some segments of the industry are active in this fight against air pollution. Last week, members of my staff and I visited the Bituminous Coal Research Facilities in Pittsburgh and had a firsthand look at what the coal industry is doing to bring the sulfur dioxide content at the point of emission to a safe level. The old bugaboo that responsible members of industry are going to flee from one part of the Metropolitan area to another to gain the "best deal" from the governing authorities, just doesn't hold true in my estimation. Responsible industries have faced their obligations in the past (as when the detergent industry accepted the need for biodegradable detergents to stop one of the major sources of water pollution in the United States), and there is little reason to believe they will not continue to do so.

Mr. Chairman, I believe this legislation, which has evolved through the cooperative efforts of the local governmental units of a region, working together for the common good, presents a great opportunity to Congress. By adopting a program and the standards outlined in this legislation, Congress will be setting a fine example for the nation—it will be affirming its belief in the viability of local government and its recognition of and the need for action against the national health problem of air pollution.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

And I have attached to this, Mr. Multer, four amendments which we have developed in the process of our study of this legislation since we introduced it and would briefly like to discuss them.

(1) The first one that we propose is that upon modification of the model ordinance by the Council of Governments I feel that the governing body of the District of Columbia must consider these modifications and adopt them if it deems it necessary.

In other words, if the Council of Governments, which is composed of all the representatives of the governing bodies of the jurisdiction that make up our metropolitan area, makes a change in the model ordinance, then I think the District of Columbia Government should consider these changes and adopt them if they deem it necessary.

This is not mandatory that they adopt them but it would be mandatory that they consider them.

(2) And after January 1, 1969, the governing body of the District should be empowered to adopt changes in standards provided that the proposed changes are referred to the Council of Governments for its comments.

I believe that we in Congress have the obligation to point the way to the nation adopting these standards for the nation's capital. But I think that the governing body of the District of Columbia should in time take over the responsibility of setting these standards. So I feel that we will be setting the course by our legislation, setting up what has been proposed as the best for this region at this time and then allow the governing body for the District of Columbia to make such modifications in the future as it deems necessary provided they get the recommendation of Congress first before talking such action.