

Mr. GUDE. I have thought about this. Maryland has adopted a very good air pollution statute and they are working on this problem. I feel that our regional approach under our Council of Governments here is a very workable way to tackle the problem. Possibly this might be formalized in an interstate compact at a future time, but I think we are showing a cooperative regional approach can work.

Mr. MULTER. At any rate, there is ample legislative authority in the Commissioners, or in the Commissioner who will succeed the Commissioners, to work out some compact and then, of course, if necessary, bring it before the Congress for approval.

Mr. GUDE. Yes, sir.

Mr. MULTER. Mr. Winn.

Mr. WINN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I want to commend Congressman Gude for the many hours that he spent on this problem. It is one of the first things he tied into right after he was elected and sworn in. Many of us throughout the nation have also been greatly concerned about the air pollution problem.

Congressman Gude, we have done some anti-pollution work in our Greater Kansas City area which has much heavier industry than we have around here. But we have also found that many of the anti-pollution devices are not available. I noticed in your statement on Page 3, next to the last paragraph, you said "For those governmental agencies, industries and individuals unable to comply with the standards set in the legislation, Section 15, on Page 20, would provide for an exemption procedure. Exemptions, however, cannot be authorized for a period to exceed one year."

Now I am no expert on this by any means. There may be some experts in the room. But I understand from some of the local authorities in my district that the anti-pollution equipment is not available and cannot be secured. The manufacturers are way behind on production. This is a vital consideration. Possibly that one-year compliance deadline might be too strict through it is important to attack pollution as quickly as possible.

But if the necessary anti-pollution devices are not available to industry, then they would be in an untenable situation even though they may want to purchase the appliances.

Mr. GUDE. I agree with you that one year in regard to some of these problems could be too short a time. However, you can renew the exemptions. The philosophy behind the one-year exemption period is that the person who cannot comply or does not wish to comply has to come back and defend their lack of compliance and get the exemption renewed. So I think, as I said, this merely puts the people who cannot comply or do not wish to comply on notice that they are subject to review.

Mr. MULTER. In other words, if they are making an honest effort to secure these machines or this equipment then they could receive an extra year or six months, whatever their delivery date might be?

Mr. GUDE. Exactly.

Mr. WINN. Are you talking about a national program? Is that what you have in mind?

Mr. GUDE. Well, this legislation, of course, applies only to the District of Columbia, and these standards would apply to the District. I think they have been drawn up keeping the problems of this region