

S. 780 also provides for a national program to enhance the quality of air resources. The proposed new section 107 of the Clean Air Act (contained in section 2 of S. 780) would require the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to define atmospheric areas of the Nation on the basis of those conditions which affect the interchange and diffusion of pollutants in the atmosphere, designate air quality control regions, and develop criteria for air quality for such regions. The bill provides for a method by which the States may establish air quality standards based upon the criteria proposed by the Secretary.

Those provisions contained in H.R. 6981 granting the Board of Commissioners enabling authority to control, prevent, and abate air pollution would complement the provisions of S. 780 authorizing the local adoption and enforcement of air quality standards. However, the detailed provisions establishing standards that are contained in H.R. 6981 would impose a statutory requirement which, as the bill is now written, could not be changed either by local or Federal officials. Such inflexible statutory requirements could frustrate attempts by the District of Columbia to develop air quality standards.

Congressman Gude, the sponsor of H.R. 6981, may have foreseen this problem when he proposed to the subcommittee that his bill be amended to empower the Board of Commissioners (or its successor) to adopt changes in the standards after January 1, 1969. Nevertheless, the statutory imposition of standards until that date could delay participation by the District of Columbia in the program contemplated under S. 780.

PROVISIONS OF H.R. 12232

H.R. 12232, introduced by Congressman Multer, the Chairman of Subcommittee No. 2, is based on suggested amendatory language provided by the Commissioners in their report on H.R. 6981. Congressman Multer requested the District of Columbia representatives to examine his bill, which they had not had opportunity to see prior to the hearings, and report whether any substantive change had been made in drafting the bill. Examination of H.R. 12232 reveals that it is essentially similar to the proposed legislation recommended by the Commissioners.

If any further material or information is desired by the committee, the Commissioners will be pleased to provide whatever is requested.

Sincerely yours,

(S) WALTER N. TOBRINER,
President, Board of Commissioners, D. C.

Mr. MULTER. Our next witness this morning is Dr. Geiger.

It is quite obvious we cannot finish this morning. May I inquire whether or not the other witnesses can come back on another day? Any from out of town can leave their statements if it would be inconvenient to come back on another day. After Dr. Geiger we have Mr. Coulter, Mr. Counts, Dr. Kailian, and Mr. McGrath.

If it is necessary, can all of you gentlemen come back on another day?

We can tentatively schedule it for next Wednesday at 10:00 o'clock, if we cannot finish with you today. We have to check to seek whether another Committee or another Subcommittee has preempted this room for that day.

Dr. Geiger, you may proceed as far as we can with you today.

STATEMENT OF JASON GEIGER, M.D., CHAIRMAN, MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY (MD.) TUBERCULOSIS & RESPIRATORY DISEASE ASSOCIATION

Dr. GEIGER. My name is Jason Geiger. I am a physician specializing in internal medicine and pulmonary diseases and have been active in this field for about 15 years.

I am appearing here today as the Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee of the Montgomery County Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association.