

minority member on the full Committee on Public Works, the gentleman from Florida, and also the gentleman from Iowa, Mr. Schwengel. They both have been very helpful along with the other members of the Commission. As you have stated so eloquently, this has been a bipartisan effort, and we have not had one word of dissent. This has been a mutual undertaking to try to solve many very serious problems. The problem of what to do for visitors coming to our Nation's Capital goes back more than 100 years, and it has grown progressively worse every year.

I am sure, when the full hearings of this Commission are printed later this week and made available, one's imagination will be staggered at some of the frustrations the American people and foreign visitors have experienced in coming here.

For example, we found in our studies that the average stay in Washington for visitors is less than 2 days, mainly because they cannot find a place to park. They are frustrated on how to go about seeing all of the facilities around Washington. Even in their average 2-day stay, tourists combined spent here last year almost \$400 million. You can see what an economic impact this can make on the National Capital, and certainly it would save a lot of our present Federal payment if we were able properly to accommodate the people so they could stay 4 or 5 or 6 days as they intended when they came.

This legislation and the need for a Visitor Center has far-reaching implications, not only economically but because of the image this Nation's Capital should present to this country and the people around the world.

I did not want to go into detail because Mr. Udall will present the full Commission report when it is printed later on this week or sometime next week, but since the gentleman from Florida commented, I want certainly to agree with everything he has said, except where he refers to the gentleman from Illinois now in the chair.

With that, we will now recognize the very distinguished Administrator of the General Services Administration, who is a valued member of the 21-member Commission and who was a real inspiration and help the Commission. We now recognize you, Mr. Knott, and thank you very much for coming.

Mr. WRIGHT. Perhaps it might be in order at this point to ask unanimous consent to include in the record the statements of any other Members of the Congress who may not be able to appear in person and testify.

Mr. GRAY. Without objection the letters will be inserted later.

Mr. GRAY. We will now hear from Mr. Knott.

**STATEMENT OF HON. LAWSON B. KNOTT, JR., ADMINISTRATOR,
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, ACCOMPANIED BY LOY
M. SHIPP, JR., DEPUTY ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR SPACE
MANAGEMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE; AND KAREL
YASKO, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO COMMISSIONER, PUBLIC BUILD-
INGS SERVICE**

Mr. KNOTT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

As always, Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to appear before your subcommittee, particularly today, to discuss H.R. 12603, a bill to supple-