

NATIONAL VISITOR CENTER ACT OF 1967

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1967

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met at 10:16 a.m., in room 2167, Rayburn Building, Hon. Kenneth T. Gray (chairman) presiding.

Mr. Gray. The Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Grounds will please come to order.

The subcommittee is in open hearings this morning in consideration of H.R. 12603, and related bills, to supplement the purposes of the Public Buildings Act of 1959 by authorizing agreements and leases with respect to certain properties in the District of Columbia for the purpose of a National Visitor Center and for other purposes. If enacted into law, it will be known as the National Visitor Center Act of 1967.

This is the fourth day of hearings.

I notice in the room this morning we have one of our very distinguished and able colleagues from Illinois, Congressman Erlenborn. We will be delighted to hear you first this morning. Let me on behalf of the subcommittee welcome you and thank you very much for coming.

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN N. ERLENBORN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Erlenborn. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have copies of my statement here.

Mr. Gray. Thank you. We will be glad to pass them out.

Mr. Erlenborn. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I would like to file my statement for the record and I will just summarize very briefly.

Mr. Gray. You may proceed in any manner you so choose.

(The prepared statement follows:)

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN N. ERLENBORN

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, for the opportunity to appear before you in support of H.R. 12603 and the several identical bills, including my bill, H.R. 12825, to be cited as the "National Visitor Center Act of 1967."

It is anticipated that 15 million tourists will visit our Nation's Capital during 1967—an average of more than 40,000 a day!

They come—Americans and visitors from foreign countries alike—to gain the inspiration we have felt in viewing our country's memorials to Lincoln.