

sultants; one additional full-time employee will report for duty next Monday, October 30.

Our estimated cost for the extended life of the Commission, on which is based the proposed appropriation authorization contained in S. 2255 and H.R. 12121, contemplates a maximum of 54 full-time and two part-time employees. This is an increase of 7 man-years over our current ceiling.

Appended to this statement, Mr. Chairman, are the additional data required by the act of July 25, 1956 (70 Stat. 652), showing a breakdown of additional man-years of civilian employment, additional personnel compensation, and other expenditures that will result if the legislation before you is enacted to increase the limitation on authorization for appropriations for the Commission and extending by 18 months the period in which the Commission may function.

The increase in the appropriation authorization contemplates an enlarged program beginning in fiscal year 1969, although the additional time requested—that is, the 18-month extension of the Commission's life—is for the period July 1, 1969, to December 31, 1970, or all of fiscal year 1970 and one-half of fiscal year 1971. Accordingly, the tabulation shows increases for 3 fiscal years—1969, 1970, and 1971—instead of for the extension period alone.

TESTIMONY UNDER OATH

The first sentence of subsection (4) of the legislation before you repeats identical language of the first sentence of section 8(a) of Public Law 88-606, except for the addition of authority for the Commission to take testimony and receive evidence under oath. The second sentence of this subsection of S. 2255 and H.R. 12121 would authorize the member of the Commission presiding at a hearing to administer the oath.

NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Before closing, Mr. Chairman, the record should, we think, indicate some of the reasons behind the projections that we made which resulted in the request for enactment of the legislation before you.

First of all, it is a simple fact that the dollar today does not buy as much in goods and services—and particularly professional services—as the dollar did in 1963 when the budget was drawn up as a basis for the monetary limitation in the legislation that became Public Law 88-606.

Second, there have been several Federal employee pay raises since that budget was drawn up and increases for this and the next 2 fiscal years are now pending before the Senate. As was indicated earlier in the statement, Mr. Chairman, the Commission did not organize until about 10 months after the legislation was enacted and it took some time after that until a staff was on board.

Another observation is equally important. The complexity of the review of public land law and its administration has far exceeded what we anticipated when the enabling legislation was under consideration. I, and I am reasonably sure that others are in the same position, did not fully realize the diversity of information that it would be necessary to develop if we are to study the whole of public land policy with an eye to the future. Hence, the estimates of time and money that form the basis of the legislation before you are the first estimates that have been made since we embarked on our work.