

**STATEMENT OF HON. JOEL T. BROYHILL, A REPRESENTATIVE
IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF VIRGINIA**

Mr. BROYHILL. Mr. Chairman, I have a written statement which I would like to submit for the record.

Mr. WHITENER. Without objection it will be made a part of the record at this point.

(The statement follows:)

Mr. BROYHILL. Mr. Chairman, I wish to commend the Chairman for holding these hearings today on the extremely vital subject of salary increases for members of the Metropolitan Police Department and the Fire Department of the District of Columbia. While time did not permit action on this legislation during the first session of this Congress, it is entirely appropriate that we give it the highest priority for enactment during this session.

Among the several bills pending on this subject is H. R. 13980, which I introduced on November 13, 1967. I should like to comment briefly on the major provisions of this bill.

The most important provision of H. R. 13980 is a new salary scale for officers and members of the Police and Fire Departments of our Nation's capital. This scale would provide an overall average increase of 8.7% in salaries, and it is estimated that it will cost some \$4.4 million per year.

The bill would increase the starting salary for police and fire privates from the present \$6,700 to \$7,500 per year. The maximum salary for privates would become \$10,200, attainable after 16 years of service, compared to the present \$9,420 which accrues after 19 years of service. The presently scheduled longevity steps 7, 8, and 9 would be deleted, with retention of three longevity step increases for Privates through Sergeants and two longevity step increases for Lieutenants through Deputy Chief, with 3-year intervals between these increases as compared to the present 4-year intervals between the scheduled longevity steps.

Since the last salary increase for District of Columbia policemen and firemen was enacted in November, 1966, there has been an average increase of 11.2% in the recruiting rates for police privates by 17 of the 20 other major U.S. cities, and an average increase of 10.7% in recruiting salaries for fire privates in 18 of those 20 major cities. These actions have dropped the District of Columbia from 5th to 12th place among these cities in starting salaries for police privates, and from 5th to 11th place in recruiting salary for fire privates. The salary scale proposed in H.R. 13980 will restore both of those vitally important starting salaries to 5th place among those in the 20 largest U.S. cities.

Also, since 1966 the recruiting rates for police privates have increased by an average of 10.7%, and those for fire privates by an average of 7.9%, in the other jurisdictions in the Washington metropolitan area. The salary scale in this proposed legislation will also improve the District's competitive position with respect to these neighboring communities.

With the incidence of major crime in the District at an all-time high and increasing steadily each month, and with the Nation's capital acquiring a nation-wide reputation of being unsafe for visitors, the necessity for recruiting and retaining a capable, well-trained police force in this city cannot be overestimated.